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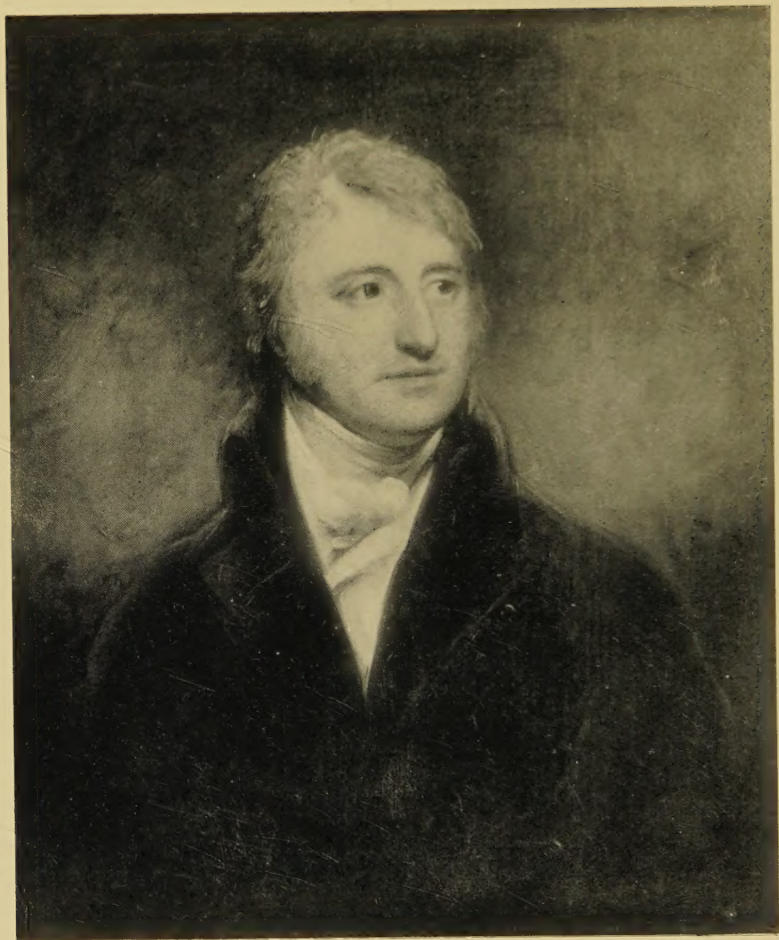
E. R. P. Frankland.

Mar. 26. 1934.



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THE DIARIES OF COLONEL THE
HON. ROBERT FULKE GREVILLE



By permission of Lady Gunning

THE HON. ROBERT FULKE GREVILLE

From the portrait by Hoppner

THE DIARIES OF
COLONEL THE HON.
ROBERT FULKE GREVILLE

EQUERRY TO HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE III

EDITED, WITH NOTES, BY

F. McKNO BLADON

WITH A FOREWORD BY

FRANCES, COUNTESS OF WARWICK

AND TEN ILLUSTRATIONS FROM ORIGINAL SOURCES

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FOREWORD

It was probably a politician at Westminster, or an official in Whitehall, who started the very absurd idea that the proper place to discover history is in the volumes of the Statutes of the Realm, or in the very solemn reports and treaties and regulations which are found in the strong-rooms where they store State papers. Of course this is quite a mistake; and it was very egotistical and conceited of the aforesaid statesmen and bureaucrats to imagine that history has ever been made (in any deep sense) by the laws and orders which they themselves have voted and ordered. The historical journey of the human race has never happened quite in the manner in which the guides in parliaments and council chambers have tried to direct it.

In short, most of the really important parts of history happen behind the scenes. If the student wants to discover the facts he should not spend too much time in reading the speeches from the Throne or the pompous replies of the subjects in their carefully-planned orations. It is not in the official pageants—whether of soldiers on the battle-field, or of politicians on the platform—that that evasive creature, Truth, can be most successfully wooed; for in the bright light of the public gaze that gentle Goddess is apt to become confused. Being so modestly retiring, the virtuous lady may shrink from the noisy applause of the public clamour. It is even possible that the statesman, with an eye on votes, may not say quite all he feels or knows when he speaks to the electors; just as the diplomat who told the truth at an international conference would be in grave danger of being tried for high treason when he returned home.

No, the truth about the history of a nation or a man is not proclaimed in the Throne Room or the Parliament Chamber; but rather in the quiet rooms hidden away behind these great public places.

That is why this edition of a daily journal is such a valuable source-book for history. It was written by a simple-minded and very honest equerry at the Court of George III. The writer had, first, that direct, plain, matter-of-fact, precious literary gift which puts down its thoughts with apparently artless art; and, secondly, that still more valuable desire to say what really happened, instead of turning out an exciting or pretty tale. If I may say so, Robert Fulke Greville was true to his family tradition in possessing these qualities; though on the surface he might seem a thousand miles away from his kinsman Charles Greville, who wrote one of the most famous diaries in the English language.

Robert Greville tells us that his first term of office as an equerry was "the happiest month of my life." His more philosophical cousin, Charles, candidly wrote that he was bored to death by the tedium of the daily Court ritual. The latter writer was intensely interested in political affairs; while the former might seem to be anxious about nothing except his horses. But both cousins had that valuable mind that can see a fact and record it. I know no more valuable quality.

Robert Greville, again so true to the type of his family, was not one of the intriguing sort, who used the Court as one would use a stockbroker's office—as a place to make a political fortune for oneself or one's friends. That was why the Grevilles, like the eighteenth-century Cecils, did not do much in those great days of corruption and disreputable party politics. These two members of the family quietly put down the events that were happening behind the scenes, and took little or no part in the scramble in the public arena; though Charles Greville's post placed him in the very centre of the battle.

Their evidence has become valuable to the historian, and delightful reading for the mere passer-by who desires to be amused. And there is another class to which I think this present book should appeal. I am not a psychologist, but I think this minute record of George III's insanity will be of interest to the many people who nowadays are so vastly intrigued by the processes of the mind. This account of the

weird and rapid unbalancing of the poor King's brain, between sense and wild raving, is really a statement of an extremely interesting problem.

One is grimly amused to note that His Majesty was as interesting in his ravings as in his sanity. We are told that he "dwelt on Religion and the Trinity—often named the Queen—now talked much of Eton College and the boys rowing." Since he appears to have devoted a very large part of his sane moments to discussing his stables and his horses, it would be hard to say that his mental trouble in any way lowered his standard of thought. It even considerably raised it; if we may judge by his brilliant remark on Edmund Burke's rhetoric, a bit of ironic wit which Charles Fox would have danced with joy to have thought of impromptu in the House of Commons.

It is only a dull Whig partisan theory to say that George III was always stupid. He had moments very much the reverse—for instance, his well-known repartee to the suggested madness of General Wolfe. Sir John Fortescue's recent edition of the Windsor manuscripts has confirmed the fact that the half-mad King was at least a good deal better, morally and intellectually, than most of his Ministers. However, not to wander into general history, this present Diary arouses the thought that it was perhaps the incredible stupidity of the Court routine and restrictions that drove an intelligent man into insanity. Of course George III was always physically unfit; he was, for one thing, a seven-months child.

We hear so much nowadays of the danger of "repressions." It is therefore natural to consider with interest the continual harping of the mad King on his early love for Lady Pembroke, and the ever-recurring plots the madman made to escape to her. Is this a case of the unhealthy "repression"? There was certainly a strain of very pathetic romance in this royal asylum.

But the most valuable element of this book is surely its revelation, in such an artless way, of the daily life of the King of England at such a critical period of our national history. Robert Greville took up his office as Equerry in

the autumn of 1781. It was the year when the complete incompetence of our statesmen and generals was bringing the American Revolutionary War to its disastrous close. It was the year when Cornwallis surrendered York Town. Admiral Parker was just about to resign his command in utter disgust at the condition of the Fleet with which the King's Government sent him forth to fight. After several generations of selfish political bickerings for office, the Government of Great Britain was in a most dangerously rotten state. All this one can half guess if one reads the everyday history-books. But I know of no volume which will give the reader such a startling conviction of this complete incompetence as this record of the everyday life of George III's Court at this time. When England was in danger of national disaster, the King was apparently spending the greater part of his time inspecting the stables, and riding about Windsor Park or walking up and down its terraces; or making most inconsiderately sudden visiting raids on the surrounding nobles and gentlemen.

The chief intellectual interest of this book is that it proves that the royal Court had adopted the ideals of a first-class livery-stable—except that its royal master was so inconsiderate of his beloved horses that he occasionally killed them by over-riding them in the trivial course of a day's picnic. Yet, paradoxically, he was one of the gentlest, most kind-hearted of men that ever breathed.

Here, at least, is a piece of history from the life, without the rhetorical clap-trap of the sentimental writers who talk of empires and political principles. Here we find history as it is really made. Here is a leader of the ruling classes who does not spend his time—as we are usually led to believe—in planning the best administration for his nation; he is, instead, popping his head round the door of his Equerry's cabin during a royal visit to the Fleet (described with a simple art that is near genius) to discover “what Lord Lothian did at night with his carefully arranged wig and his long thick pigtail.”

Such is history behind the scenes. There are dozens of these half-conscious revelations of the truth in this book.

When Robert Greville tells us, with pathetic seriousness, that he had to be put on another ship each evening during this naval visit, because it was against the law of the Court that he (only a Lieutenant-Colonel at that time) should dine with the King, we must not be annoyed with him for his dullness in respecting so stupid a convention. We must be thankful that his delightful simplicity can leave us the story as a valuable record of the times. The most revealing parts of history are these small and trivial facts. For most of our history has been made by rulers who have paid more attention to the trivial than to the serious things.

FRANCES EVELYN WARWICK.

EDITOR'S PREFACE

THE Hon. Robert Fulke Greville died in the year 1824. He was the third son of Francis, 8th Baron Brooke, created Earl Warwick in 1746 and Earl Warwick of Warwick Castle in 1759, this latter title having become extinct by the death, earlier in the same year, of Edward Rich, Earl of Warwick and Holland. Robert's relationship to Charles Cavendish Fulke Greville, author of the famous "Diaries of the Reigns of George IV, William IV and Queen Victoria," is properly described as second cousin once removed; Robert's father, Francis 1st Earl of Warwick, and Charles Cavendish Fulke Greville both being great-grandsons of the 5th Baron Brooke, who died in 1710.

Robert Greville had two brothers, George, who succeeded to the family title and estates as 2nd Earl of Warwick, and Charles, who distinguished himself only as a virtuoso and by his not over-gallant associations with Emma Hart, better known to posterity as the beautiful Lady Hamilton. Of the three, Robert was certainly the most likeable, and his generous and considerate character will unfold itself to the reader. He is the Colonel Wellbred of Madame D'Arblay, with whose diaries these are contemporary. The former in the service of the King, and the latter in that of the Queen, they necessarily record their respective impressions of the same events, which are interesting to compare.

Writing of Robert Greville, Madame D'Arblay says: "There is something in Colonel Wellbred, so equal and so pleasing, it is impossible not to see him with approbation and to speak of him with praise." Although he was the favourite equerry of the King, he appears also to have enjoyed the real regard of the Prince of Wales, whose feelings towards his father's friends and attendants were not usually of the most pleasant nature. Some of his

letters have been published from time to time, but the diaries, which throw a very interesting light on the private life and habits of George III, have, so far, remained undisturbed. They have been handed down, through Louisa, his daughter, to their present owner, Nigel Montagu Finch Hatton, Esq., the diarist's great-grandson. Mr. Finch Hatton's father endeavoured to publish the diaries forty years ago, but was dissuaded from doing so for fear of causing displeasure in high quarters. As a hundred and ten years have now elapsed since the completion of the diaries, it is felt that the time has arrived when they may, and should, be given to the public.

The diaries themselves owe more to the facts which they record than to the style in which they record them. They may lack the descriptive colouring of Madame D'Arblay and the polished style of the author's distant cousin, Charles Cavendish Fulke Greville, but they have an honest *naïveté* of their own and a dry but merry humour which is more easily appreciated than described.

Politics find but little place in them, as do private scandal and intrigue; and that fashionable society of the time which ornamented the Park, the Coffee Houses and the Clubs is never mentioned. Greville's interests lay more in the direction of horses and hunting, of which he was evidently very fond; agriculture and soldiering also claimed a share of his serious attention.

It is true, Greville was at one time the member for New Windsor, but he only contested the seat at the King's own request. For another short period he and his brother Charles were returned as members for Warwick, but this was probably for family reasons, and Robert vacated his seat after about two years. In 1791 he wrote to Charles, "I see that Lord Gage is dead. This will, of course, make a vacancy for Warwick; which in all human probability will not affect either you or me."

The MSS. consist of four separate leather-bound books. Three of these are diaries. The fourth is a series of separate and disconnected narratives evidently written some

time after the events which they record took place. One or two of these narratives have been introduced at the end of each diary.

The first diary describes the author's initial waiting as equerry, upon which duties he entered on August 1st, 1781. They continued till September 9th of the same year, rather longer than the appointed month. During these five or six weeks he attended the King in London, at Windsor and to a review of Admiral Parker's fleet at the Nore.

Between the first and second diaries seven years elapsed. Perhaps Greville found the rather homely life of George III's Court lacking sufficient incidents worthy of record. The novelty of his appointment had, no doubt, worn off, and one royal day was much the same as the preceding one. He rose at six o'clock, met his Royal Master in the stables at seven, attended prayers at eight, followed by breakfast. At half-past nine he would accompany the King riding. Dinner would be between three and four o'clock, supper at ten, and bed punctually at eleven.

In 1788, however, this pleasant regularity was disturbed by what is usually referred to as "the King's first illness." It is now known, however, that George III had, on previous occasions, suffered from minor attacks approaching mental derangement. On November 5th of this year, Robert Greville again started to keep a diary, and recorded in faithful detail all he saw and heard till March 4th, 1789, when the King was pronounced sane. With the recovery of the King the diary ceases, and was not resumed for five more presumably uneventful years.

The third diary opens in August 1794, when the Court moved to Gloucester Lodge, Weymouth, and remained there until the end of September. Here the King varied his amusements considerably, indulging in hare hunting, in riding over the downs with his children and retinue of friends and retainers, and in frequently going to sea on fine days in the Southampton frigate which was stationed in the Roads, with other men-of-war, for His Majesty's pleasure and protection.

In this third diary the reader will, in all probability, be perplexed by the frequent mention of "my friend" and "a dear friend of mine who shall be nameless," and other similar and cryptic allusions. These refer variously to two people. On some occasions the reference is to Major Price, one-time equerry to George III, and on others to Louisa Countess of Mansfield, who three years later became Greville's wife, and for whom he had always a warm and reciprocated affection. When the latter "friend" is referred to, the diarist has invariably inserted a very small and scarcely discernible asterisk, which would appear to be rather a private expression of sentimental feeling than a guide to posterity. It has not been thought necessary to insert these in the text, but an example will be found in facsimile in Plate X.

The printed text is a faithful reproduction of the actual MSS., which have not been altered in any way, and all peculiarities of spelling have been preserved. The punctuation has been slightly altered, however, and has been inserted where it is entirely lacking. Parts of the MSS. are plentifully underlined in black, and sometimes in red ink, but for the comfort of the reader these have not generally been reproduced.

I am much indebted to Lady Gunning for permission to reproduce the portrait of Robert Greville by Hoppner, of Charles Greville by Romney, of Louisa Countess of Mansfield by Hoppner, and the commemoration plate of the Recovery of George III. I am very grateful also to H. W. Carr-Gomm, Esq., by whose kind permission Russell's pastel of General Goldsworthy is reproduced, and to Mrs. Maxtone-Graham and Miss Elizabeth G. Anson for kindly lending me certain manuscripts in their possession. Special thanks are due also to Captain E. A. Gerrard and to William R. Todd, Esq., for much valuable assistance and advice in my researches and annotations.

F. MCKNO BLADON.

*Kirk Ella,
E. Yorks.*

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THE FIRST DIARY (1781)

JOURNAL
OF MY FIRST WAITING ON
HIS MAJESTY
AS HIS EQUERRY AT
WINDSOR.

1781

In June 1781 His Majesty was of Himself pleased to honor Me with the flattering Appointment of one of his Equerries, on Colonel Ramsden retiring from that Situation.

This Appointment was render'd more flattering to Me, by His Majesty having been pleased to name Me without any application whatever, from any of My Friends, & the Notification reached Me unexpectedly by a Letter, wrote to Me (by command) by His Grace The Duke of Montagu Master of the Horse to His Majesty.

I. WINDSOR

Wednesday Augst. 1st 1781

This day I enter'd upon My New Office at His Majesty's Levee at St. James's Palace.

My Predecessor in Monthly waiting soon 'spied Me in the Croud, & by his looks seem'd from a distance to bid Me welcome.

My Brother Charles attended Me to the Levee, & having got near His Majesty, We were amused by a long conversation He held with a Naval Officer— The topic was on Ships & on their different rates— Much was said on the new 38 Gun Frigates one of which this Officer commanded—

The Sailing of Ships was then discussed, & the Effect of lading Them, by which I learnt, that some sailed better with weight before, some when placed in the Middle, & some when stowed aft. From this Officer I learnt that the smallest alteration in placing the ballast will occasion the greatest difference in the Ship's sailing— To illustrate this He told His Majesty, that He was once convoy to a Fleet of Merchantmen, & that his Frigate by her good sailing could keep any station He pleased with Them— In the Morning when He waked He was much surprised to find that every Ship in the Fleet had passed Him, & that He was now astern with the same Sail— He called to his People to know what was the reason but they could not account for it— He then enquired if any Water had been used from the Casks, & was informed that some had been used— He continued his Enquiry into the probable cause of this remarkable alteration in the Ships rate

of Sailing & at last it was accounted for, by the information that one of the Casks of Water had been moved from one side of the Ship to the other. On this He order'd it to be replaced as before and then added the Captain "An't please Your Majesty She shot past Them as a Bow from an Arrow."

The King laughed, made Him a low bow, as if thanking Him for his simile, & turning to My Brother & Me He spoke most graciously to Us both.

After The Levee My Brother went to Hendon to dinner, I to St. James's Street where I dined with one of My Brother Officers on Guard & in the Evening I came home *¹ to prepare for Ensueing Waiting at Windsor, & read some few papers of The Spectator—

Thursday Aug^t 2^d

This Morning I attended Her Majesty's Drawing Room at St. James's, & on Entering I joined in the Procession (of The King's Attendants in Waiting) before Their Majesties—

My Place in this Procession was as I was now informed to be immediately before The Silver Stick in Waiting.

During the time Their Majesties were in the Drawing Room, I waited in the Outer Room adjoining to it, where I was introduced to several of "The Family," General Budé &c. & from these I received much congratulation on My New Appointment—

At the Drawing Room I saw among many other of My Acquaintance Lady Payne but at too great a distance to speak to Her—She was in Her Usual good looks, & was much admired by all except one Great Personage which

* I lived at this Time at my Brother Charles's House in Portman Square—RFG

¹ Charles Greville did not give up his London house till the following year, when he moved to a small house at Paddington Green, where he could the more economically and the more privately keep Emma Hart, who was destined later to be known to all the world as the beautiful Lady Hamilton.

certainly gives good reason to call his taste much in question— *

I was agreeably surprised to find that Their Majesties did not go to the Play this Evening & of which I had received Official Notice the day before—

General Budé & Colonel Digby desired Me to Permit Them to have a Seat in My Coach to Windsor tomorrow, which was treating Me with all the Dignity My high Office could possibly require—& which I received with all the ceremony of State, which I could collect in my two days of official duty at Court—

After The Drawing Room We fell into our former procession, & made our respectful Bows in the Levée Room as Their Majesties past.

I dined this day with My Brother Charles who went this Evening to Coombe The Hon^{ble} Wilbraham Tollemaches near Kingston to carry his favorite little Puppy, who is to try sea-bathing at Steep Hill in the Isle of Wight under the Auspices of Lady Frances Tollemache.

I left Portman Square to make My final Arrangements preparatory to My leaving town tomorrow, which I am to do at two o'Clock at which hour I have appointed General Budé & Colonel Digby to Meet Me, & go to Kew to dinner, in the way to Windsor.

Friday August 3^d

I met General Budé & Colonel Digby in the Stable Yard St. James's where My Coach was in waiting to carry Us to Kew.

We dined at Kew with Sir John Dyer, Equerry to The Prince of Wales & Sir Richard Jebb Physician to The Household. After dinner The Prince of Wales did Us the honor to join Us & calling for a Bottle of Champagne He staid with Us until My Coach waited to carry Us on to Windsor.

* This was no doubt the wife of Sir Peter Payne, at that time Clerk to the Board of Green Cloth. She is described as one of the few charming women on terms of intimacy with Queen Charlotte.

After a very dusty drive We arrived at The Queen's Lodge, & just at this time We had the honor of seeing Their Majesties & The Royal Family who were now in the Court before the Lodge.

There We made our Bows & had a very gracious reception.

Their Majesties were here in their Way to the Terrace, which was now filled with Company of various description, assembled to see & pay their respects to The Royal Family— The appearance of the whole was gay & cheerful & the Promenade was improved by the alternate Music of Two Bands, The one of which was The King's, & the other belonged to Lord Fauconbergs fine Regiment of Yorkshire Volunteers, at this time doing The duty at Windsor Castle.*

From The Terrace Their Majesties & Royal Family adjourned to the Castle, & drank Tea—

After Tea His Majesty, General Budé & Myself, went to The King's Stables to see his Horses, & at this time H:M^y gave directions for those which He selected to go with Him to the Review of The Blues on Ashford Common about 8 miles from hence, & which is to take place to-morrow—

After having made this Arrangement in his own Stables, The King went to My Stables to inspect My Horses—& at this time I fixed upon Perreau, a clever nag of mine, for my first mounted duty.

This Horse came into My possession by a fatal event, which overtook its former owner who was executed for a Forgery; on his being taken up, His Horse was seized by a Creditor, & sold to meet debts— The trial of this Man & Mrs. Rudd occasioned much talk at this time, & I continued the name, of the former after his misfortune, by My Horse— †

* The 19th (or 1st Yorkshire N. Riding) Regt. of Foot, now known as The Green Howards, Alexandra Princess of Wales' own Yorkshire Regt.

† Robert and Daniel Perreau were charged with forgery in 1775. The former was an apothecary in high practice in Golden Square, the

In this Walk to the Stables, The King was pleased to hold gracious & kind conversation with Me, & made particular Enquiry respecting a severe hurt on My foot, which I had met with some time ago, & from which I was not yet well recover'd Turning to General Budé He said "what a pity it is, that a young Man till then so active, & so fond of Exercise, should have been so much interrupted, by such an Accident: "

The kind Interest He now took will never be forgot by Me—

The King now returned to The Queen's Lodge to His Family, & to hear music by His Band, who in the Evenings assemble in the Apartments—

General Budé & I drank tea with Mrs. Haggerdon * of The Queen's Family, & afterwards, We went to The Music Room, into which H. M^y came shortly after, & played several Games at Backgammon with General Budé, & for whom He was a full Match during the Evening.—

We retired about Ten o'Clock—from the Kings Apartments to our Supper below Stairs— After which the Prince of Wales paid Us a short Visit.

We paid proper attention to the regularity of this Establishment, & all of Us retired to our Apartments by Eleven o'Clock.

Saturday Aug^t 4th

I rose at Six o'Clock, & at 7.0 went to The Stables to wait for His Majesty but who did not come there this Morning—

other lived a genteel life in Pall Mall. These two, together with a Mrs. Rudd who lived with Daniel and passed as his wife, raised considerable sums by forging bonds in the name of the well-known agent William Adair. One of these forgeries, however, was discovered by Mr. Drummond the Banker. The brothers were hanged the following year and were indulged on their way to Tyburn with a coach. 30,000 people assembled to see them meet their fate.

* One of the two women Queen Charlotte was allowed to bring from Germany, Mme. Schwellenberg being the other. She resigned in 1786, when her place was taken by Fanny Burney.

Returning to The Queen's Lodge I made a short breakfast, & was on horseback by 8 o'Clock in attendance on H:M^y—

Going by Old Windsor through Staines We came on Ashford Common where The Blues were drawn up in Review Order.

Her Majesty & The Princesses came on the Ground soon after.

That fine Regiment made an Excellent Review—His Majesty was much pleased with Them, & staid with Them from 9 o'Clock 'till near 12—The day was very hot—

Return'd with His Majesty to The Queen's Lodge on Horseback—

On the road back, as well as on the road to the Review, I was honored with much kind conversation— That on coming from Ashford Common included the greatest portion of various subjects—& here He talked to Me of My Father,* of whom He said many flattering things; He enquired much also of My Election at Warwick &c &c—

After the Review was over, & on H. My's arrival at The Queen's Lodge He went to his Stables, prepared to make out the remaining part of the Morning with a short ride in the Great Park.

He was so good as to lend Me for this Ride his Chesnut Horse White Stockings, the same which He had rode at the Review of the Blues this day on Ashford Common—and this acquaintance, was preparatory to My riding Him on Tuesday next to the same place, H. M: having signified His pleasure that He will review the Blues again a second time on that day—& that I should then ride this Horse—

Came home to dress, and dined at our usual hour a little after Three o'Clock.

After dinner The Prince of Wales came into The Equerries' Room & did Us the honor of sitting with Us some time, & partaking of our Wine.

The King sent for Me after dinner to Walk, but The Prince of Wales took Him again to The Stables— H.M^y

* Francis, 1st Earl Brooke and 1st Earl of Warwick, 1719-1773.

left the Prince there, & went to The Lodge for The Queen, & the Princesses, with whom He went to The Terrace.

The Terrace was very full of Company & The Two Bands play'd as usual through the Evening, on it—

Their Majesties & The Royal Family left The Terrace at 8 o'Clock & came back to The Queens Lodge from thence.

General Budé & Myself profited of Mrs. Haggerdon's kind & general Invitation, & We drank Tea with Her, previous to our attending the Music Room.

On entering The Music Room We found The Royal Family very busy in looking at The Little Monmouthshire Fairy— Her height I do not recollect but I know Her weight, was said, to be eighteen Pounds only.*

The King & Queen were very good & kind to it, (*sic*) & they asked Her many questions. Put at Ease by Their notice & condescension The Little Fairy, begged She might have the honor of kissing both Their hands, & She was made happy by Their gracious permission. Greater People have been accustomed to this honor; I much doubt if a less Personage has ever been thus Indulged & honored—

At 10 o'Clock Their Majesties retired from The Music Room— We left it to Supper, & We had all retired from thence to our Bed Rooms by Eleven o'Clock.

The Early rising in the Mornings, seems likely to continue seasonable hours at night—

Nothing can exceed His Majesty's kind attention to Me, & which Her Majesty also loses no opportunity of marking—

This Evening the former asked Me how the Exercise agreed with Me, adding in a very flattering manner, &

* Miss Morgan, the celebrated Windsor Fairy, was thirty-five years of age, and only eighteen pounds weight. A contemporary writer says " Her form affords a pleasing surprise and her admirable symmetry engages attention . . . , their Majesties were pleased to pronounce her the finest display of human nature in miniature they ever saw & conferred upon her the title of Lady Morgan."

addressing the Observation to The Queen "As I am not tired of Him, I must not demolish Him in a day."

Sunday Augst 5th.

This Morning I met His Majesty at his Stables, a quarter after 7 o'Clock— Thence walked with Him alone, until 8 o'Clock the hour for Chapel in Windsor Castle.

After Prayers breakfasted at the Queen's Lodge & then attended Their Majesties & The Princesses in Their Walk in the Home Park; from whence they returned before 12 o'Clock—

His Majesty returned from his Walk retired to His Apartment on business, sending Word to Me, that I might dispose of Myself as I liked as He should not want My Attendance on Him before dinner—

On this Indulgent hint I thought This a favorable opportunity to take a ride, & try a new mare I had lately purchased, & one of a remount, made within a short time on my Appointment— This Mare I bought in a hurry the day before I left Town for Windsor—

I rode through Windsor & Eton to Salt Hill thence continued My ride a few miles further, &, returned well satisfied with My New purchase.

Dined at our usual time between three & four o'Clock—

In The Evening attended H. M^y to see The Yorkshire Volunteers on their Parade— The Queen & Princesses were there also— The Regiment marched by in Review order, with their music playing— The Terrace was at this time crowded, & from it this display added an Interesting variety to the general Scene—

From the Little Park Their Majesties & The Royal Family came on The Terrace. Among the Visitors on it this Evening I saw The Duke of Queensbury, Lord Harrington, Lord & Lady Sefton, Mr. & Lady Betty Delmé, Mr. Selwyn &c &c &c. Their Majesties retired from The Terrace to The Queens Lodge at 9 o'Clock—where The King's Band as usual played in The Music Room.

After our Supper The Prince of Wales honored Us with a Visit; & staid with Us until half past Eleven o'Clock—an Encroachment rather on our regular System, tho' a flattering one—

Monday Aug^t. 6th.

I met The King this Morning at 7 o'Clock at his Stables. I afterwards walked with Him to The Castle, where He did Me the honor to shew Me alterations He had lately made on the Terrace & communicated to Me the plan which He intended to execute in addition to that part which He had already begun—

At Eight o'Clock went to the Chapel in Windsor Castle—At half past nine o'Clock His Majesty mounted his Horse intending for a Ride— We rode through Windsor and Eton to Salt Hill—from thence crossing the London Road, We went through Lanes & Woods, & again regained the London Road between Salt Hill & Maidenhead—

I have not yet had opportunity of knowing the Environs of Windsor, to give more accurate outlines of many of our usual progresses, but as our Exercise is constant, I shall e'er long obtain more accurate knowledge of the local.

This was a very pleasant ride, & it was not a hurried one— In the course of it His Majesty was pleased to include Me in much gracious conversation, & He made Me give Him an Account of My travels on the Continent, & which included details connected with French Flanders, Lorraine Alsace—Bavaria—Austria—Hungary—Bohemia—Saxony — Leipsic — Berlin — Brunswick — Hanover — Brussels—& Paris, which made the outline of my rambles.

On his Majesty's return from his Ride to The Queens Lodge, He walked to the Apartments in Windsor Castle, accompanied by The Queen, where He considered & fixed on various arrangements preparatory to a Fete intended for The Ensuing Birth day of The Prince of Wales— At this time the distribution of the Supper Tables was mentioned to Him & He decided on some proposition for

lighting the Apartments, at this time preparing for an Approaching intended Fete—

After These arrangements His Majesty returned with The Queen to The Lodge, & He continued his Walk—going first to Doctor Arnold's one of The Canons of Windsor. He was at home— The King saw His House & paid the Doctor a gracious & comfortable Visit—

After Their Majesties had dined The King sent for Me— We walked to The Stables, & from thence returning to the Lodge He summoned the Queen & The Princesses to The Terrace, which they found not crouded— After drinking Their Tea in the Castle they return'd to The Queen's Lodge, where they heard music until Supper—

This Evening General Freytag in His Majesty's Hanoverian Service, & an Officer of distinguished Merit, arrived from Hanover, & came to The Concert—

Tuesday Aug^t. 7th.

I rose this Morning as usual at Six o'Clock, & gave directions for the Equerry's Coach with a Set, to be in readiness for Ashford Common—to which place after breakfast I proceeded—

At Nine o'Clock His Majesty arrived on Ashford Common, & I was there in readiness to have the honor of handing Him from his Carriage—held his stirrup as He got on Horseback, & then immediately I mounted White Stockings, which His Majesty had been so good as to lend Me for my attendance on Him this day at The Review of the Blues. This Excellent Regiment lost nothing on this day of that approbation which it received so fully on Saturday last—

From Ashford Common His Majesty returned to The Queen's Lodge, & thence accompanied The Queen to The Castle, to make another inspection of the preparations now actively in progress there for The Fete intended for Monday next The Prince of Wales's Birthday— After attending to these for some time, They went through The Prince of Wales's Apartments & other parts of the Castle,

& then The King walked back to The Lodge with Her Majesty—

After this H.M: went to his Stables & from thence We went to the Little Park to look at the Workmen who were numerously employed in levelling the ground under The Eastern Terrace, losing itself at some distance from it, & uniting in a lower and easier level with the Park. This Alteration promises to be a great Improvement, & gives height & character to the Castle itself, viewed from it—

Returned from hence to The Queen's Lodge preparatory to dinner— After We had dined, The Prince of Wales honored Us with a Visit in The Equerry Room, staid a short time, & calling Sir John Dyer his Equerry to accompany Him, He drove out in His Phaeton—

Not long after I was summoned by His Majesty, to attend Him, & tho' it now rained He walked to The Cathedral in which He staid some time—& thence returned to The Lodge, when the Weather clearing up, & there being appearance of a fine Evening, He proposed to The Queen & The Princesses to walk on the Terrace, on which were very few Person's & whom the rain had probably kept from it—

After Tea in the Castle Their Majesties returned to the Queens Lodge; the King's Band as usual played in The Music Room, & Cards in The Queen's Apartments—when this Evening The Duke of Montagu (My Chêf as Master of the Horse to His Majesty) Lord & Lady Courtown,* made the Queen's Party at Whist—

His Majesty played several Games at Back Gammon with General Budé—

Our last occupation at Supper, & our attention to the Early occupation of our Beds, being so constantly the Windings up of our days at Windsor, need not be further noticed in these daily Memorandums—

* James, 2nd Earl of Courtown, was Treasurer of the Household to the King and Lord of the Bedchamber to the Prince of Wales.

Wednesday Aug^t 8th.

I went this Morning with His Majesty to The Apartments in Windsor Castle, at Seven o'Clock— Afterwards He walked to his Stables, & from thence was in The Chapel at Eight o'Clock—

General Budé & I have had to thank Her Majesty this Morning at Breakfast, for some excellent Cake, which She kindly sent Us from Her's.

At half past Nine o'Clock H My set out in his Post Chaise & Four attended by an Escort for his Levee at St. James's, in a heavy rain—the continuance of which prevented My Intended ride—I gave it up reluctantly, but having waited in My Stables a considerable time, I was at last obliged to order My Horse to be unsaddled & fed— I occupied Myself afterwards in My room at The Queen's Lodge, & wrote to a few Friends; Such opportunities do not often reach an Equerry of His Majesty in Waiting, amidst his other constant occupations—

His Majesty returned this Evening from His Levee at St. James's by half past Six o'Clock. I was at My Post on his arrival, & had the honor of handing Him out of His Carriage—

At 7 o'Clock Their Majesties & Princesses tempted by a pleasant Evening after the Morning's Rain, walked on The Terrace—for a short time.

Deprived of his ride this day by his having gone to Town, & the Mornings rain having improved the state of the roads, His Majesty hinted to Me his Intentions of taking a long ride tomorrow, & in consequence of this sudden resolve He took Me immediately with Him to his Stables, to give the necessary orders for the particular Horses He intended to take out.

By the time His Majesty reached his Stables He had devised a Plan, & an outline of his Intended Excursion for tomorrow, & for its arrangement He gave the following Orders.

Some of His Majesty's Saddle Horses, with two of Mine, were to be ready to be sent on to Chalfont St. Giles's,

Early in the Morning by way of Relays. Also four Horses for the Queens Landau were to be sent on at the same time as Relays— Sir John Dyer Equerry to the Prince of Wales & Col! Digby coming to The Stables at this time, the plan of this long ride was communicated to Them, with strict injunctions to them, to keep it secret from General Budé, who it was decided should be taken quite by surprise tomorrow Morning, with this long ride— Relays for the rest of the Party were at the same time order'd, & directions given as to the time, & destination— Everything being thus arranged H.M. returned to the Queen's Lodge, very much pleased with the expected success of the Excursion He had thus secretly planned for to-morrow as far as General Budé was concerned in it—& who afterwards played his accustomed game at Back Gammon with H. M.^{ty} as unwittingly as if nothing respecting Him was in the Wind.

Late in this Evening H. M.^{ty} received a Box from Lord George Germaine which He open'd & read directly—He did not seem quite pleased with its contents, but said nothing.

Thursday Augst 9th.

This Morning at Seven o'Clock His Majesty went to his Stables, where I met Him—He found all his directions of yesterday Evening had been attended to, & all ready for the Start of this Morning—

Returned to The Queen's Lodge, & breakfasted directly, & hurried Us in ours—but graciously brought Us biscuits from his own Table— He afterwards sat down in our Room where at this time was General Budé (the devoted), & Myself, & while We were at our Breakfast H.M.^{ty} wrote a Dispatch to Lord Hillsborough * & borrowed My ring to seal it with—

At Eight o'Clock went to Chapel, & on prayers being

* Secretary of State for the Colonies and President of the Board of Trade.

finished about half past Eight H:M.^{ty} found his Horses & the Carriages waiting—

He mounted without delay, & We were all off upon our Secret Expedition in a moment— The unusual bustle & dispatch, soon occupied General Budé's Attention, & We who were in part of the Secret were excessively amused at his early perplexities & many guesses—

After passing Eton it was not long before The General rode up to Me, & whispered, that He now knew where The King meant to go—To Lord Boston's at Hedsor near Taplow—but soon after having passed the Road which led to it, He was instantly abroad again—

Having crossed the London Road at Slough, General Budé resumed his guesses & calculations, & which became more eager as He proceeded in the Cavalcade, at no creeping pace—

Continueing our course afterwards towards Bulstrode The Duchess of Portland's, The General with eagerness informed Me, that He was persuaded Their Majesties would stop there, & recollecting a former reception there, He now promised Himself, & Me, the best breakfast in the World— His disappointment & surprize were great, when instead of turning towards Bulstrode, the Cavalcade passed it with undiminished pace—— Approaching Chalfont St. Giles's from the top of the Hills in the hollow below, Horses & Attendants in Royal liveries appeared— At this sight The General's late flattering expectations, changed suddenly to alarms—— He now very gravely came up to Me, & informed Me, that The King had lately been talking to Him of a particular Stag, & that He now much feared our expedition would end in a Stag chase, & in vain with anxious eyes He looked for his favorite Hunter "Steady" in the Croud, & which, His Majesty generally allotted for his riding on such occasions—— Instead of Steady a Chesnut Mare was brought forward to Him— On seeing Her, The General said, he really could not attend, for that She was too slow, & clumsy——

His Majesty mounted a fresh Horse at Chalfont St.

Giles's—We ours', & the General now appeared mounted on The Chesnut Mare—& on this fresh alert, He for some time, at every turn, & in every direction, looked out for the Hounds—To his great joy however none appeared—At length coming to Rickmansworth tired out with fruitless guesses, The General put an end to Them, by resigning Himself patiently to his fate—& going, wherever chance, or His Majesty should direct Him—

We came next to Cashiobury Park The Earl of Essex's—rode through it, and proceeded on; when at last after many a weary Mile, We arrived at The Grove The Seat of Lord Clarendon in Hertfordshire.

This little playful stratagem against the General's comfort, succeeded admireably— The Secret was well maintained by all, & none enjoyed its variations & success more than His Majesty Himself—

The general embarrassment which such a Visit, so unexpectedly made, occasioned at the Grove, was I must own another very amusing Incident of the day— The Lady of the House quickly appeared, dressed in a Dark Green Silk Gown—Curtsyng in small, & quick semi circles; Her head at the same time gracefully waving, & Her Countenance brightned with Smiles, She thus welcomed The Royal Pair, whose first request was to see the House, & into every corner of which they quickly spread— Lady Clarendon bustled after Them doing the honors, describing the Rooms, & shewing the Pictures—&c—

The Queen's notice was attracted by some small pictures, which were immediately announced, as the Histories of Pastor Fido *—Amintor † &c &c— These Pictures & their Histories amused Her Majesty, & indeed both were sufficiently ridiculous, as now introduced to Her—

Other occupations without doors afterwards engaged His Majesty's attention. It was proposed to Their Majesties to ride round The Grounds—The offer was

* A pastoral drama written by Tasso in 1573.

† A pastoral drama written by Guarini, who succeeded Tasso as titular poet to Alphonso II, Duke of Ferrera.

accepted, & all our Horses, were after a short rest in the Stables, order'd out again on an Extra-duty.— Lady Clarendon on this occasion had the honor of driving the Queen in a low four Wheel Phaeton, drawn by a little fat long tail Horse, covered with a White Net—Lady Charlotte Villiers had the honor of “half driving” The Princess Royal in a low two Wheel Chaise, drawn by one Horse, whose Reins She held, while a side Rein was held by a Postillion, who appeared to Me to monopolize nearly the whole Management.

The Princess Augusta & Lady Egremont were in a Post Chaise—

The Prince of Wales rode with His Majesty accompanied by both Their Suites.

In the course of this ride through the Grounds, a playful circumstance occur'd. The Horse which Mr. Montague (Yeoman Rider to His Majesty) rode, was very ticklish, and so much so, that if a Whip touched his hind Quarter, it would set Him kicking directly— This propensity was not unknown to Many of Us, & in the course of this ride round The Grove, the Whip was not unfrequently, & quietly drawn across his Quarters— Its Effects were sudden, & annoying to its peaceful Rider, who did not often discover the Quarter from whence his repose was thus assailed— Had He discover'd all, He might have known, that these hints were from high Authority, as none were more active than His Royal Highness was in this Mischeif—

These proceeding's surprised Mr. George Villiers, a younger Son of Lord Clarendon— He longed to ask a question, but was diffident among so many merry Strangers. At length He fixed on one of more sedate appearance than the rest, & He thus accosted Him in gentle Accents—

“Pray Sir do they always hunt that Poor Gentleman so?”

Sir John Dyer The Gentleman to whom He thus addressed Himself, with that dry humour, which is inseparable from Him, thus answered Him, with the greatest Gravity—

“No Sir—Only twice a week when the Weather is hot——”

Young Villiers eyed Sir John with attention, but from the continued gravity of his countenance, left Him, without being able to ascertain, whether He was in Joke or Earnest——

Returned to The Grove after viewing The Farm, & well kept Piggery. Excellent breakfasts were prepared for all, & Their Majesties were welcomed by merry Hand Bells from a neighbouring Village which by this time had assembled near the House——

Their Majesties now prepared to leave The Grove, on Their return to Windsor. His Majesty mounted his Horse, & We were quickly in readiness for as hard a ride on our return as We had had to this place.

By a little after three o’Clock We reached The Queen’s Lodge from hence, having had a ride, (taken altogether) of Fifty Miles The distance between Windsor & The Grove being 23 Miles, & it is not overcalculation, in fixing a distance of four miles, for our ride of an hour & a half in Lord Clarendon’s Grounds.— We rode this Twenty Three Miles on our Return in Two hours & five Minutes changing Horses at Chalfont St. Giles’s included.

My foot bore this smart ride in hot Weather wonderfully well, & My Horses carried Me much to my Satisfaction, particularly my last purchase the little cropped Bay Mare—Fairy.

A Windsor Life is by no means a Stationary One. There is no time for long pauses—throughout the day——

Immediately on our Return to the Queen’s Lodge, general preparation for dinner commenced—After dinner attended Their Majesties to The Terrace——

This Evening His Majesty received The News of Admiral Parker’s Victory over the Dutch Fleet off The Dogger Bank— It reached Him just before He was preparing for The Terrace— On receiving the Account He came into our Dining Room & read the whole dispatch to Us Himself, & staid with Us nearly half an hour——

Friday Aug^t 10th.

I met the King this morning at 7 o'Clock at his Stables, & afterwards attended Him in his Walk into Windsor— Here He stopped at his Sadler's, desirous of chusing a Bridle for My new Cropped Mare, who from the nimble lightness of Her Steps I have named Fairy— His Majesty picked out one which He recommended for Her, & anxious to chuse the best reins, He carefully felt several pair—

Returning to The Lodge He accompanied the Queen & Princess to Chapel at Eight o'Clock.

After breakfast His Majesty set out from The Queen's Lodge before 10 o'Clock, to attend his Levée at St. James's—

General Budé recruited now from his Alert of yesterday, proposed to Colonel Digby & Myself a moderate ride— He paid a Visit to General Johnstone one of His Majesty's Equerries, who lived about five Miles from Windsor— Colonel Digby & I conducted Him to his House, where We left Him; We continued our Ride to greater extent, & after a very pleasant ride through the Forest, We returned to Windsor—

In the Forest We saw a Squirrel with a white Tail run up a fine Spreading Beech, with something in its Mouth. On closer examination We found that it was carrying a young Squirrel—

We dined at our usual hour, and on His Majesty's return from Town, I received Him at his Carriage Door.

Immediately His Majesty took Me with Him to The Stables, look'd particularly at his Friends in the ride of yesterday, & afterwards invited the Queen & the Princesses to The Terrace—

I saw there this Evening among the Many, who had come to indulge Themselves with a sight of The Royal Family Three very remarkably dress'd, & very odd looking Ladies, not in their *premier Jeunesse*— Their dress consisted of a long & short Polonese, & singular accompaniments throughout—

From The Terrace The Royal Party went to The Castle—and afterwards to Saint George's Hall, to see the Effect on its being lighted up, preparatory to The Ensueing Fete— We were conducted to it by His Majesty & through various dark Passages in the Castle, We reached The Hall— On this occasion I had the honor of handing the Princess Royal up one of the narrow Staircases in the dark, & landed Her in safety, without one false Step.

The Hall was handsomely illuminated, but some alterations at this time proposed, will improve its general Effect on Monday very much— It was found that the Heat from so many candles, would be overpowering, & attention was now paid to counteract it—

From St. Georges Hall Their Majesties returned to Music, & the general Evening occupations in The Queens Lodge, & We retired at our usual hour to Supper, & to rest—

Saturday Aug^t. 11th—

I met His Majesty this Morning about 7 o'Clock at his Stables— He intimated his Intentions to Me, of taking a gentle ride this day, as it was very hot— Having made his choice of the Horse He should ride, & those which were to attend, He returned to The Lodge & went with The Queen & Princesses to the usual prayers in The Chapel—

Here I saw Seven of the Ugliest ladies in a row, that I had ever seen, and amongst these appeared with considerable Effect, the Three Polonese Jesuits, with Their Fans displayed, & waving— On leaving Them I left amongst them “a lingering look behind,” & tho' possibly the last, I feel as if I might survive it—

After Breakfast His Majesty Mounted his Horse, & a little before 10 o'Clock We were in progress. Her Majesty was of this Party in Her Phaeton, & was accompanied by Lady Egremont— I rode My little favorite Mare Fairy—

Our Ride through Eton, extended by Taplow & Clifden, then passing Lord Boston's at Clifden, His Majesty &

The Queen alighted at Dropmore Hill, the Cottage Orn  which was at this time advertised for Sale by Mr. Christie— It belongs to Mr. Scawen late of The Guards—*

I had heard much of the neatness & Elegance of this Cottage retreat, but I confess myself much disappointed with the place, as well as the Situation on an open Common. The Rooms were small & very low. We measured the highest & it was just Eight feet—

We found out, that by this sudden Visit We had disturbed a young Lady from her breakfast— She however escaped and during our stay I think She was hid in the Garret. We did not see Her, but by a Bill She had left on the breakfast Table in Her hurry; We discovered that Her Name was Dalton, & that She bought Her Tea by the Quarter of a Pound—

I confess these Visits, tho' flattering & distinguished, are often very troublesome, to snug & quiet Parties—yet to say the truth the Incidents are often thought very amusing—

While on this Excursion, I occasionally recollected His Majesty's welcome intimation to Me this Morning, that He would take a gentle ride, as the day was very hot—

In lieu however of a gentle refreshing ride, We had this day the smartest I had seen and a favorite Mare of His Majesty's was so blown when She arrived at Dropmore Hill, that She did not recover Her Wind for some time—

On the Common close by this Cottage, a Poor Old Man threw Himself on his knees before His Majesty, & asked Charity— The King on seeing Him stopped— The Old Man told him that He was 100 y^{rs} Old, all but a Month—said He was born in Cumberland, & that He had left his Native Place near 70 years ago, & that He was a Groom in the reign of King George the First.

His Majesty listen'd to the Old Man's History with

* Dropmore Hill with considerable Surrounding Property is now become the distinguished Seat of Lord Grenville—R.F.G.

interest & much kindness—& on going away, He left Him a comfortable present— It was received with the Old Man's benedictions, & who with a tremulous Voice often exclaimed "God Bless His Majesty King George."

On our return in our way home to Windsor, Their Majesty's in a Lane saw an Elderly Gentleman leaning against a Stile, by the Roadside—

It was Mr. Bryant * (the author of a Treatise on Antient Mythology) whose residence was not far off—¹ Three small red & White Spaniels were playing near Him—

Their Majesties stop'd to speak to Mr. Bryant, & on The Spaniels being admired, He took up the prettiest, & put it in The Queen's Phaeton for Her to look at— On Her admiring it, Mr. Bryant desired Her Majesty would do Him the honor to accept of it from Him— Her Majesty in the most affable manner thank'd Him for his Intentions, but told Him She could by no means rob Him of such a favorite, & so pleasant a Companion— Mr. Bryant urged his request again, observing that perhaps in Ten Years He could not offer Her so handsome a one, & beg'd Her Majesty would make an Old Man happy, by accepting it.— The request was too strongly urged to be longer refused— The Spaniel was left in The Queen's Carriage—

Their Majesties now proceeded on towards Windsor— Our return from this Lane was at three quarters speed into the Town of Windsor—in spite of the warnings of a Sultry day.—

On alighting His Majesty went to Inspect St^t Georges Hall & the preparations there— Then returned to the Queen's Lodge to dress & to dine—

After dinner I attended His Majesty to his Stables, and at his return He met The Younger Princes who had arrived from Kew—

¹ At Cypenham near Salt Hill—RFG

* Miss Burney describes him as "A thin, little, wizened old gentleman, with eyes that scarce seemed to see, and a rather tottering gate." The king was very fond of his society and frequently visited him at Salt Hill which visits were returned at Windsor Castle.

Their arrival adds two gentlemen to My Table—

In the Evening Their Majesties and the rest of the Royal Family walked on the Terrace.

The Evening was very sultry and close—& few people were on The Terrace— Among the few Visitors now appeared The Duchess of Hamilton,* & Lady Augusta Campbell, both in Riding Habits— The former in a striped Buff & White Manchester, the other attired in a light spotted Manchester.

The Evening wound up with the usual harmony of the King's Band in the Queens Lodge—

Sunday Augst 12th

This Morning at Eight o'Clock I attended His Majesty to The Chapel— The Queen & Princesses were there likewise.

Breakfasted—and at Ten o'Clock I went with Their Majesties & The Princesses to The Cathedral, where for the first time they attended Divine Service in it—

His Majesty has fitted up a Closet up stairs for Himself & The Royal Family, & an adjoining one for their Attendants— Both through Stone Mullion Windows look into St. George's Chapel below—

After the Cathedral Service was over, I attended His Majesty to The Castle, where He inspected the Apartments preparing for the Fete & Ball of tomorrow— While here His Majesty communicated to Me his Intention of paying a Visit to The Fleet at The Nore, under The Command of Admiral Parker, which had just return'd after Their Victory over The Dutch Fleet, & He now told Me, that He should take Me with Him on this Excursion. This information delighted Me much, as His Majesty seems to be determined to see every thing worth looking at within reach— His Majesty strictly enjoined Me to keep these Intentions, a perfect Secret for some days—

* Elizabeth Gunning. Her charms and coquetries are said to have afforded grounds for jealousy and uneasiness to the Queen.

From the Castle H.M. walked in the Little Park, & returned to The Queen's Lodge to dress.—

After dinner I was summon'd to attend The King to his Stables, who afterward went from thence to invite The Queen, the Princes & The Princesses to The Terrace; They returned Early from Their Walk to The Music Room, where was a Concert at which Fischer—Bach—Abel—and Crosdale assisted——

This day added two or three more to My Table—Hitherto our Small Parties have been so comfortable, that I regret an increasing croud of Strangers— These however after The Fete, will disperse—

The little Princes take very kindly to Me, & I seldom Walk without two of Them being with Me— They are very civil and well bred as far as I have yet seen Them, full as much so in fair truth, as Their Elder Brothers—

His Majesty observed this day that I appeared somewhat heated, as well as Himself— No Wonder after so smart a ride as We had yesterday in so hot a day. He told Me He should take some Powders, a prescription from The Queen to Him, & He proposed to Me to partake of the benifits of this prescription. Of course I accepted this gracious offer, & I received from His Majesty Three Papers of Powders, which I found to be principally composed of Cream of Tartar. A ride before Dinner tomorrow is looked to, for the completion of our Cures.— Tomorrow I expect to see My Brother & some other Friends who are invited to the Fete— I shall be happy to see Them—I am sequester'd here, and at present can know but little of those who are distant from Me.

Monday Augst 13th

I attended His Majesty this Morning at half past 7 o'Clock after having had the honor of a previous & unexpected Visit from Him, in My room— Luckily I was dressed & ready— After making a general Survey of the Apartments in Windsor Castle, which was the object

of this Early Visit H: M: went to Chapel at 8 o'Clock & afterwards to Breakfast. After Breakfast His Majesty walked to His Stables, attended by the Young Princes and Myself— No directions for the intended ride of this Morning—

The Inspection of his Horses was interrupted by His Hunters being at this time out at Exercise. Left The Stable & went into The Long Walk in the Great Park to look for Them. Their Exercise extended beyond The Long Walk, & His Majesty did not find them there, but crossing afterwards some neighbouring grounds He met with Them in a Lane, on their return from Exercise—

Returned from His Walk to the Queen's Lodge at Twelve—

Was gratified by a Note I found from My Brother which announced his being at Salt Hill—I wrote to Him advising Him, to dine there, as I was so deeply engaged this day with a numerous Party at a dinner given by Lord Courtown in The Round Tower, (in the Duke of Montagues Apartments) that I could not receive Him—but I desired He would come after his dinner, & dress in the Room I had provided for Him in Windsor—

This great dinner in the Round Tower of Windsor Castle was given to The King's the Queen's & The Prince of Wales's Family.

At the Table I found Thirty one Persons with keen Appetites assembled to devour a Turtle given by His Majesty—

This day was very sultry, & what with walking & bustling about more than usual My foot was more painful & troublesome than I had felt it for months—

At half past six o'Clock We adjourned to The Music Room in Windsor Castle where Their Majesties drank Tea, & heard music until near nine o'Clock--

The Terrace was uncommonly croud'd this Evening, but great was the disappointment among the many on it, That Their Majesties did not walk there as usual— I though some of the Royal Family seem'd also to share in

this disappointment—& which due prudence to meet the fatigues of the Night had occasioned—

At nine o'Clock Their Majesties & The Royal Family walked to The Great Apartments preparatory to the opening of The Ball Room, & here was a kind of Drawing Room for about half an hour—

The Ball was open'd by The Prince of Wales & The Princess Royal in a country Dance.

At half past 12 o'Clock Their Majesties rose to go into The Supper Room which by The King's particular command was kept locked until He went there—

In going through the Apartments to St. George's Hall where the Supper was, His Majesty called to Me, & giving Me the Key of The Hall, He desired Me to open the Door, & to keep the Key—

The Hall on coming in, was grand & very striking— It was well lighted, & by the proper precaution of taking out here & there a payne of Glass from the Upper Teirs of the Windows everything was kept cool & comfortable within—

There were above Two Hundred & Fifty large Wax candles burning in St. George's Hall which well illuminated it, & its many decorations— Every thing was well conducted, The Supper handsome, & The Desert profuse in Ices, Fruits &c &c— Every thing was well arranged. Indeed the pains His Majesty took throughout the progress of every arrangement before The Supper, seem'd now to have most fully answered his best expectations—

His Majesty's Table, and at which were the Queen & the Princesses, was at the Upper End of St. George's Hall up a few Steps. The Prince of Wales's Table was on The Right of His Majesty's below—& Here were the Dancers & Their Partners—

It was jocosely surmised that on this occasion, it was not quite accident which had placed His Royal Highness next to Lady Augusta Campbell.

The Chaperons, & those who did not dance were at a Table opposite to The Prince's on The left of Their Majesties—

At the bottom of St. George's Hall was a Magnificent Service of Gilt Plate—Interspersed with rich embossed Gold Plate which had a grand Effect—

From The Gallery above, The King's Band played delightfully during Supper.

At half past One Their Majesties rose from Supper, & The Company followed to The Ball Room.

His Majesty's kindness to Me was overpowering—Knowing that I was not at ease & that I was suffering from My hurt, He most graciously desired I would not wait longer on Him, and expressed his Wish that I would go quietly to bed— I beg'd His Majesty would permit Me to wait on Him until He retired, but I afterwards found My foot so troublesome from over exercise, that I availed Myself of His Majesty's most gracious Indulgence, General Budé having promised Me, to be in close Attendance on Him during the rest of the Night.

I retired about Four o'Clock. His Majesty staid until near Six o'Clock at which time He walked to The Lower Lodge through the Garden with The Princesses & from thence He went Himself to his Stables, & told His Head Groom, that He was not sure whether He should ride out or not, but in case He should, He would then name the Horses which should be left at home for Him— He did so, & left the rest to go out for their usual exercise.

Returned to The Queen's Lodge after His Majesty had given kind directions, that none of Us should be called in the Morning as He wished Us to sleep as long as We could. He retired Himself to bed between Six & Seven o'Clock—

Tuesday Aug^t 14th

I heard nothing of the King this Morning until Eleven o'Clock, when He came in to My Breakfast Room, where He found The Young Princes, & My Brother Charles with Me.

He told Me He should not ride out today, & He directed Me to send this Information to his Stables—

His Majesty not long after walked Himself to His Stables—and as My foot had much recover'd by rest (which I had in great part owed to his goodness), I resumed My close Attendance on Him.

From The Stables He walked to The Apartments in Windsor Castle, and afterward took a pleasant Walk in the Little Park in all which directions I had the honor of attending Him.

My Brother dined with Me this day. The usual Walk on the Terrace was interrupted by rain which lasted until 7 o'Clock. This gave Me a longer Visit from My Brother.

After our Dinner The Prince of Wales honored Us with a long Visit, & drank several Glasses of Wine with Us, which by the by He should not have done, as He was not well.

My Brother's Phaeton being now ready for Him, The Prince went with Us to see it, & it had the good fortune to meet with His Royal Highness's approbation.

After Tea adjourned to The Music Room where was a Concert and at which Fischer—Bach—Abel—& Croisdale again assisted—

Wednesday augst 15th

I attended His Majesty this Morning at 7 o'Clock to his Stables. In this Walk He took an opportunity of telling Me He was surprised that He had as yet, heard nothing from Town, by which He could fix anything further with Me, than He had already done, respecting his projected expedition to the Nore, but that He would let Me know as soon as He could make any positive Arrangements.

I told His Majesty that I should at all times be ready to obey his Commands. A Dear Friend of Mine,* who shall be nameless, would have laughed at this first Courtier-like Speech from Me.

From The Stables H; My came back to The Queen's Lodge, & accompanied The Queen & The Princesses to Chapel at 8 o'Clock, ——Breakfasted at Nine o'Clock—

* No doubt Lady Mansfield.



By permission of Lady Gunning

LOUISA COUNTESS OF MANSFIELD

From the portrait by Hoppner

After which Their Majesties & The Princesses set out to The Queen's House in Town, preparatory to The Drawing Room which Her Majesty is to hold tomorrow at St. James's Palace. I followed Them in My Coach & Six, as fast as I could, & arrived at My House* in Town about one o'Clock.

This Evening I received His Majesty's commands to be in readiness to attend Him on Friday next, on his Expedition to see The Fleet at The Nore— I received at the same time H. M^y directions that I was to wear My Guard Frock Uniform with Boots, and an Intimation that His Majesty would tell Me tomorrow at what precise Hour He should expect Me to be ready on Friday— I was also informed that I was not to send on any Horses, as none would be wanted during the whole time—

* At my Brothers The Earl of Warwick's in St. James Square.—R.F.G.

II. REVIEW OF ADMIRAL PARKER'S FLEET AT THE NORE

Thursday Augst 16th

I attended His Majesty to The Drawing Room this day, in the procession of His Household from His Levee Room. Here I received from His Majesty his commands to wait on Him this Evening at The Queen's House by Six o'Clock. I received also the honor of an Invitation to dine at The Queen's House with The Prince of Wales this day.

At Six o'Clock this Evening I saw The King— I walked with Him through The Gardens of The Queen's House to His Riding House, & to His Stables.

I now received His Majesty's commands to meet Him tomorrow Morning (Augst 17th Friday) at Greenwich Hospital— I was commanded to give The same notice to The Marquis of Lothian Lord of His Bedchamber & to Colonel Townsend one of the Grooms of His Bed chamber, with directions I was to take both these Gentlemen in My Coach with Me to Greenwich Hospital. His Majesty when giving Me these directions added "You will find Lord Lothian full of difficulties & distresses."

In obedience to these My directions from The Queen's House I immediately waited on The Marquis of Lothian, & likewise on Colonel Townsend— The former I found at his House I imparted to Him The Commands I was directed to convey to Him from His Majesty— The manner in which He received Them plainly shewed, that He was not too fond of the expedition— His remarks proved the correctness of H:M^{ys} knowledge of Him— He began by critizing it not a little, & concluded by saying "What is it We are to see?" "Do you know where

The Fleet is ?” “What is become of *The Princess Amelia* ?” “Nobody knows where She is,” & with much affectation of authentic & early Intelligence He added, that She had got to no Port, & that the probability was that She was lost.

A conversation, so spreading to Ideas, the reverse of Those which were now floating in My mind, I was by no means inclined to prolong; therefore having most clearly imparted the Message which His Majesty had confided to Me for Him, & given Him every explanation He had asked, & which was within My knowledge, I took My leave of Him fixing this appointment viz That I would send My Coach to call on Him, & Colonel Townsend at His House in Portland Place, & that afterwards they should proceed in it to St James’s Square where They should take Me up— This done, I went home to make all necessary arrangements, and at going to bed, desired to be called at Six o’Clock tomorrow Morning—

Friday Aug^r 17th—

The appointment made last night with Lord Lothian & Colonel Townsend took place this Morning with the desired punctuality. We three proceeded on, in The Equerries’ Carriage to Greenwich Hospital, where We arrived before Nine o’Clock— On our arrival We met The Earl of Sandwich First Lord of The Admiralty & Ad^l Sir Hugh Palliser The Governor of Greenwich Hospital— All was in high ceremonial for His Majesty’s reception— The Great Square was lined with The Pensioners of this distinguished Establishment; & Their Sons, who were educating within it for the Sea Service.

Soon after Nine o’Clock The Prince of Wales arrived— & not long after His Majesty—

Immediately on His arrival The Royal Standard was hoisted on Greenwich Hospital— The Boats & Yachts being all in readiness to receive Him— His Majesty lost no time after his arrival in preparing to Embark. Without going into the Apartments of the Governor, He immedi-

ately walked to The Stairs, Where his Barge was ready to receive Him— In this He was rowed to *The Princess Augusta Yacht* on board of which His Majesty embarked—& on his coming upon Her Deck The Royal Standard was hoisted at the Main top Mast Head, & the Yards were manned.

In like manner The Prince of Wales was rowed in The Barge prepared for Him from The Stairs to *The William & Mary Yacht* on board of which His Royal Highness Embarked. On his arrival The Prince of Wales's Standard was hoisted at the Main top Mast Head of his Yacht—& the Yards were manned—

The Chatham Yacht received The Earl of Chatham and on this occasion The Standard of the Admiralty was hoisted—

The *Mary Yacht* was likewise in attendance on this expedition; She was for the accomodation of The Servants of H:M:^y &c——

Immediately on His Majesty's coming on board, The whole Fleet, with their convoy, got under Weigh; And with a fair fresh Breeze the whole left Greenwich Hospital, cheered with the joyful acclamations of many thousands from The Shores, & from the River which was now covered with Vessels & Boats of all descriptions— Every Village on the Banks of The Thames, turned out Their Inhabitants who with loud acclamations of Joy, welcomed Their beloved King.

The Fleet was saluted on passing Woolwich—Gravesend—& Tilbury Fort— On passing the former, a “proof” of Cannon took place, which rent The Air, & produced a very fine Effect—

Near Gravesend We saw *The Sceptre* a New Line of Battle Ship of 64 guns going down The River for The first time to receive Her Guns—

We passed *The Fayette French Ship*—prize to H. M^{ys} Ship *Endymion*—She had on board, clothing for 10.000 Men & abundance of Military Stores for the Americans— A prize of great consequence & value to Us— She

appeared as We passed Her a very large Ship, but not fit to be kept in our Service as a Man of War—our Sailors thought She was hogged, or broken back't—

When off Erith I saw a smart pleasure Boat close by Mr. Shuttleworth's House— It proved afterwards to be that gentleman's vessel; From a distance, with the help of a good Glass, I discover'd Sir Joseph Banks, Lord Palmerston * & My Brother Charles on board of Her— on our approach this smart Vessel came towards The Fleet from The Shore, & on its nearer approach to The Royal Yacht She fired a Royal salute from Her small Swivels— but which by some mistake She did, without shewing Her Colours, which in the hurry of business & zeal, had been overlooked.

Unconscious of this mistake, until We had an opportunity of mentioning it afterwards in a Whisper to our Friends on board, she stood after us, & kept what Company She could.

Having now made some progress in our little Voyage We were enabled to make good observation, on the comparative rate of sailing of the Yachts &c—& We found that *The Princess Augusta*, on board which His Majesty was, much outsailed the rest, & especially *The William & Mary*, on board of which was The Prince of Wales—

On this We kept under The Easiest Sail We could set at first, & afterwards shorten'd Sail.

Hitherto *The Surprise Cutter* Lieut. Rivett attended Us as our Convoy— It was from this Intelligent Officer, that the first Intelligence of The Dutch Fleet was given to Admiral Parker, & who after the Action, brought the News of the Victory to The Admiralty—

The first Night We came to an Anchor in Leigh Roads— From hence We could see beyond The Nore, but at this time could not perceive anything of Admiral Parker's Fleet which was hourly expected—

His Majesty dined at Three o'Clock. I left at This time *The Princess Augusta*, & went on board *The William*

* Henry, 2nd Viscount, father to the statesman.

& *Mary Yacht*, the etiquette being that no officer under The Rank of full Colonel (& I being a Lieut. Col! only) can have the honor of dining with His Majesty. After I had dined I immediately return'd to *The Princess Augusta Yacht*.

Not long after Her Boat was order'd out & manned, & His Majesty went on board *The William & Mary*. During the half hour He was on board, He visited every part of This Ship; After which He was rowed back to *The Princess Augusta*.

There was throughout this Evening the most anxious look out for Admiral Parker's Fleet but of which as yet no tidings had been received—

Towards dusk *The Surprise Cutter* was hailed from *The Augusta*, and order'd under her Stern— She was directed to stretch out ahead, to look out for the Fleet—

About this time We were joined by H. M^{ys} Cutter *The Sprightly*, which with several Armed Boats, were order'd to row guard round The Yachts during the Night, as The Nore is rather an open place—

About 12 o'Clock at Night the *Surprise Cutter* returned, with the Information that She had descried Admiral Parker's Fleet at Anchor in the Gun fleet, some distance from the Nore.

About half past Nine o'Clock His Majesty retired to His Cabin—

Lord Lothian, Colonel Townsend & I went to our Cots at Eleven o'clock—

Saturday Aug^t 18th.

We were called this Morning by His Majesty before Five o'Clock; He came from His Cabin to ours', which adjoined, in his Night Cap & Night Gown.

We got up as quickly as possible. It must be owned The Morning was too fine, to be wasted in a Cot.

When His Majesty was found to be stirring Sir Rich^d Bickerton, who commanded *The Augusta*, gave orders to put Her under Weigh, & with a fair Wind the Fleet proceeded towards the Nore.

On this Alert of H. M^ys the amusement which this bustle amongst Us had occasion'd, was not diminished on board, by the Admiral's having also been caught napping—

Not long after We got under Weigh We passed *The Greenwich Man of War* who manned Yards, & saluted—

Afterwards passed *The Confederacy* a large American Frigate, lately become a Prize, & just arrived in the Thames. Her Yards were manned, & She Saluted. She appeared a Very Fine Frigate—& very long—

At a considerable distance in the offing, We now descried several large Ships & no doubt was entertained, but that these were of Admiral Parker's Fleet.

In order not to lose time His Majesty determined to steer directly for Sheerness from which We were now not far distant, to land, & take a View there of the Fortifications, & in the Evening to meet Admiral Parker's Fleet which would be brought up by that tide— On this determination, *The Surprise Cutter* was despatched with a Letter to Admiral Parker, to inform Him of what was going on, & of His Majesty's Intentions—

On our Way towards Sheerness We passed H. M.^{ys} Ships *The Arrogant*, *The Conquestadore* & *The Africa* all which with the *Cleopatra Frigate*, and with Several Armed Vessels Saluted at the same time, & had a very fine Effect—

By this time many Pleasure Yatchts had joined us from various parts, who sailing on different tacks, & with their colours flying, made a very beautiful appearance, and contributed their share of animation to a gay & interesting display—

On The approach of His Majesty's Yatcht to Sheerness it was saluted from the Fort. Immediately His Majesty with the Prince of Wales & their Retinue landed from the Little Fleet—

His Majesty was joyously received by a vast concourse of People on his landing, & who rent the Air with their acclamations.

Here He saw *The Berwick* of 74 Guns one of Admiral Parker's Fleet & which having suffer'd much in the Action had been dispatched for the earliest repairs within reach—Already were they busily employed on her repairs—in order to get Her as speedily as possible again into Her Line of Glory—

At this time *The Berwick's* Anchor was pointed out to His Majesty, which Was much bent by a Cannon Shot which had struck it—but what interested Him much more was, the sight of a few of Her Gallant Crew, with their New Crutches, who were clustering round *The Berwick*, & had crawled out, to hail their beloved Sovereign & whose Flag they had so gallantly maintained—

The kind Reception H. M^y gave Them cheered their hearts, & their blessings followed Him— This circumstance became the More interesting from the activity of the Work carrying on, when His Majesty was looking at *The Berwick*. Her masts (much Injured) were now taking out, & numerous large plug marks appeared on Her sides, & many shot holes in Them still open ; From hence H: M.^y looked at *The Polyphemus* a New Sixty Four Gun Ship on the Stocks.

His Majesty then walked round the Fortifications of Sheerness, and afterwards was carried to see several old & unserviceable Men of War, now run on shore, & converted into Dwelling Houses for The Shipwrights & their Families—

These Ships now allotted for such purpose are divided into Separate Dwellings. Well secured & lashed together to the Shore, they have communication by a bridge with one another, thereby forming a kind of Street of considerable length with Rooms & Dwellings on each side. These Houses are tiled, & their Chimneys are of Brick. In this Wooden Town upwards of three hundred Families were now living.

Sheerness from its low Situation is generally reckond an Unhealthy place— Much owing probably to the bad supply of Water within it— To The Heavens however

they are indebted for their main supply & their measure is made up by Water brought in boats from Chatham, at a considerable expence— At most of the Doors of Sheerness is a large Cover'd Tub which receives The Rain from The Roofs of the Houses, & so precious is this Article that I observed every Tub had its Padlock.*

After some hours stay at Sheerness His Majesty re-imbarked on board *The Augusta* & which steered towards Admiral Parker's Fleet some of which had by this time come to an Anchor near the Nore, while others were still under sail to that Anchorage.

On the approach of *The Augusta* The Royal Standard at Her Main top-mast Head was saluted by all His Majesty's Ship at anchor at the Nore, & likewise by those who were still coming up. This was the most beautiful and animating Sight I ever saw; The Seamen on the yards, loudly cheering in extacy, & giving welcome to Their King, from those Ships which they had so proudly defended in their late hard fought battle, & which at this time bore the many marks of hard service.

Great was the joy around at this glorious Sight—yet with regret do I observe it, that the willingness to be pleased, was not general. A canker'd spot nourished sullenness & dissatisfaction in a Corner, & from whence I was sorry to perceive, it was spreading where it ought not—

Even The gay appearance of *The Princess Amelia* with all her colours flying, Her Gallant Crew, shouting from Her yards & the most heavy & well served Salute from her batteries, could not extort one satisfied expression from that quarter, at her having reached Her Port in safety, & escaped from those imaginary dangers, which had so lately beset Her.

The Yachts on their coming up with The Fleet, with their several Attendant Vessels sailed round every Ship in it, & distinguished among the rest in the Line appeared *The Dolphin* of 44 Guns which in the Action had gallantly

* A well of great depth & made with difficulty now gives good supply.—R. F. G.

& successfully sustained the Attack on Her from several principal Ships in the Enemy's Line.

The Augusta anchored near Admiral Parkers Flag Ship *The Fortitude* of 74 Guns—& His Majesty then dined—

In the Evening His Majesty went on board *The Fortitude*, & was received on the Deck of that Ship with every mark of ceremony & high respect—

The Officers of The Fleet were assembled on board *The Fortitude* on this Occasion—These were presented to His Majesty on the Quarter Deck & had the honor of kissing his hand.

The manner, and awkward Shyness of some of these gallant Men, unused to ceremonials of this nature, might possibly at another time, have occasioned somewhat of Mirth, perhaps of ridicule, but on an occasion like this, such ill-timed levity was unpardonable. I hope it was not so fully seen as I saw it—I was hurt at the moment, & shall ever be so, when I recollect the circumstance.

Awkward or uncouth as some might have appeared, I thought them, Men more distinguished, & more deserving of their country's thanks, than that Person who was now so a *mal à propos*, indulging his natural turn for Satire on Them, & extending his subsequent comments in the same strain to The Prince afterwards.

From an attention too eager to whatever came from this Quarter, I was sorry to think, that prejudices might be established against that valueable profession, whose Services could best maintain the safety of this Country, & render his future Crown permanently glorious.

That Men should be thus willingly Mischeivous, is beyond My comprehension, & I now regretted more than Ever, that this Little Personage, had been of this Party—I saw much, & this has made Me thus Serious, on this Subject—

His Majesty's manner, & aimiable attentions while on board *The Fortitude* made amends to my feelings— He went through every part of this fine Ship— He spoke to many— He enquired much, & feelingly, & heard many

an artless tale of recent turmoil, from the weather beaten Tars, who had been active in the Fray—

After the Action, it had been insinuated by The Enemy, that unfair stuff had been used from our Guns— The Indignant Tars who overheard this imputation, ran & collected various articles of “Unfair Stuff,” which had been made Use of against Them, & some still sticking in the Splinters & shewed Them to His Majesty, declaring at the same time, that they had only been paid in proper coin by Them—

The Fortitude had bore much of the Stress of this Action, & many & severe were the marks from Shot on the Hull, & masts of this Ship. The Ship was not got quite clean from outward & Viseable marks of destructive contest, when His Majesty was on board.

His Majesty left *The Fortitude* under a discharge of Twenty One Guns, & which Salute was answer'd from every Ship in the Fleet, at parting—

During the interesting part of this display, My Brother Charles & our Friends in Mr. Shuttleworths Yacht, sailed close to Us several times, & in passing I was enabled to hold short sentence conversation with Him—

Again embarked on board *The Augusta* His Majesty now proceeded on with his Flottila & as He passed Sheerness, The Royal Standard was Saluted by the Fort;—

From hence continueing progress He came beyond Blackstakes in the River Medway.

Here the Yachts anchored—*The Augusta* taking Her Station above H. M.^{ys} Ship the *Vigilant* of 74 Guns, just then returned from the West Indies.

Sunday Aug.st 19th

By times in the Morning The Yachts got under Weigh, & at nine o'Clock They anchor'd off the Dockyard at Chatham.

The Weather which at Five o'Clock this morning was very hazy, was now become rainy, & continued so until after dinner, which kept Us all day to the Cabin—

Our only amusement was to look at & admire *The Atlas* a fine 90 Gun Ship now on the Stocks, & in forwardness—

About 5 o'Clock in the Evening We landed & went through The Dockyard where the Artificers (tho' Sunday) were busy in making Masts.

Returned to Supper on board *The Augusta*, & received our directions to be up early tomorrow morning to attend His Majesty who reviews the Regiments in this Garrison, & intends to see the Fortifications of Chatham.

Monday Aug.st 20th

We were all waked at 5 o'Clock this Morning by His Majesty, who prevented any of Us from rising, as He was pleased to stand and talk to Us in our Cabin, for some time—

As soon as He retired We left our Cots, & dressed as quick as possible—

After a hurried breakfast, His Majesty went on Shore at half past Six o'Clock— He then reviewed the Four Regiments of Infantry which composed the Garrison Camp. Afterwards H: M^y went round the New Fortifications which are very extensive but they do not appear to Me to have been as judiciously formed as they should have been, being commanded by heights on the opposite side of The River Medway. The Works themselves are very neatly constructed.

His Majesty after this went to The Master Assistant's House in the Dock Yard, & here He received an address from the Corporation of Rochester, who had the honor of kissing his hand— The like honor extended at this time to several Naval & Marine Officers.

This as usual afforded fresh subject for jest, & except in these two Instances of presentations, & a general abuse of the expedition, & Lord Sandwich, I saw no other where the Little Man could be pleased.*

* Lord Sandwich was First Lord of the Admiralty, and received a good deal of abuse on account of the very doubtful success of the engagement off The Nore.

At Two o'Clock His Majesty re-embarked on board *The Augusta* Yacht & with the rest of the Flottila sailed down the River Medway, & which again passed Sheerness & were welcomed from its Batteries.

His Majesty having expressed an inclination to go on board *The Strombolo* Fireship Capt.ⁿ Hamilton, the Yachts came to an anchor, for that purpose.

This Fireship was at this time completely equipped, & ready for its destructive purpose; & H. M: minutely inspected the various contrivances & preparations for its Mischief— Its Commander was overjoyed at the honor now done Him, & the condescension of H. M.^y made the deepest impression on his feelings— He was a lively active Officer & seem'd most calculated for such command as He now had, & there is no doubt, but that He would have done ample justice to it, had opportunity occur'd on this expedition.

His Majesty having seen every thing, was preparing to leave *The Strombolo* when Capt. Hamilton suddenly exclaimed—"But your Majesty has not seen the Cabin."

With the utmost good humour the King replied "Then I will see The Cabin"—

He was ushered into a very small and dark Cabin, which The Possessor assured H. M.^y was the most comfortable little Birth that could be.

The King felt the moderation of his Comforts, & was pleased with the naïve expression of it, from this zealous Officer—

On again approaching The Fleet under Admiral Parker, They took leave of His Majesty by a general Salute, with Yards Manned, & every throat strained in loudest acclamations.

The Yachts now bent their course for The River from The Nore, & this night they again Anchored in Leigh Roads, under the protection of *The Greenwich Man of War*.

This Evening Sir Joseph Banks & My Brother (who had still kept company in Mr. Shuttleworth's Yacht) had

the honor of being invited on board *The Pss. Augusta* by His Majesty.

The Sea at night bore a very uncommonly luminous appearance, & flashed with every oar which struck it— This appearance by no means uncommon, became subject of observation, & of conversation, & Sir Joseph by a small close net, took up many of those luminous little circular substances, in appearance diminutive Jelly fish, which stuck to it, whenever it was let down in the Water; & by putting these in a goblet of pure Water, good opportunity was obtained, of seeing the formation of these little substances, Which in numberless shoals, give this extraordinary appearance in the Water, & whose brightness is equal to that of the Glow worm, & Fire Fly tribes—

After His Majesty had retired to His Cabin, He frequently open'd his door, & looked into our Cabin, just as We were preparing for our Cots. He however at this time said Nothing, but it seem'd to indicate, that He had something in view—

At last His Majesty called Me into his Cabin, & told Me, He was curious to know what Lord Lothian did at night with his carefully arranged Wig, & his long thick Pig tail—& how these were disposed of—

I inform'd Him, that His Lordship had the patience every night to go through the full arrangement of Curls &c as others with fine heads of Hair did—& that He slept with the Wig & long Pig tail, to make Colonel Townsend & Me Believe, that He wore his own Hair—

Lord Lothian who had observed that The King had appeared to be desirous of finding something out, became suspicious that He was the object, He therefore on My being called in listened at the Door of H. M.^{ys} Cabin—& He then heard the King's question to Me, & He heard Me tell The King, what He wanted to know—

Lord Lothian immediately on hearing My Answer, said in a loud Voice from without “It is all true Sir—”

The King was much diverted with the detail, & after-

wards joked His Lordship very pleasantly, tho' He was a little sore for some time, at this discovery—

Tuesday Aug.st 21st

This Morning His Majesty sailed from Leigh Roads with the Tide, and a tolerable tripping Wind, under a Salute from *The Greenwich Man of War*.

His Majesty desired that His Yacht *The Augusta* should now make all the sail She could, & beat as many as She could of those Vessels which now left this Anchorage, or that were in the River—pursueing their course to The Port of London.

The Wind did not suit a direct course, & our progress was made, in a succession of short Tacks, which the narrow channel of the River obliged Us to take— This render'd the bustle on board great, & constant, & for hours nothing was heard but the unceasing directions of “ Out Tacks & Sheets,” Of “ All haul,” & “ Bout Ship ” from the Careful Pilot—

The Superior sailing of *The Augusta* soon appeared, from the Many She passed & left behind— She much out-sailed the other Yachts & *The William & Mary* then far behind grounded for a little time, but was soon got off, & followed.

The Augusta could not get further with this Tide, than off Erith— She therefore came to an Anchor there—

His Majesty order'd Me to send for his Carriage Horses which were waiting at Greenwich, to come on with The Carriage to this place—& He prepared to dine on board. When dinner was announced, His Majesty went down to the dining apartment, attended by his Usual Guests—

The William & Mary now some Miles astern, was not within My reach, & I was thus deprived of accustomed hospitality—

I remained on the Deck of *The Augusta*, when His Majesty left it for dinner, who with Infinite condescension, on recollecting that I had necessarily been left out, ascended

the Accomodation Stairs, & beckon'd to Me— On obeying the Summons, H: M.^y kindly told Me that I must not thus be left out, & order'd Me to follow Him—placing Me then within two of Himself at his Table, He took the best possible care of Me, & among other things, recommended Me to eat some beef Stakes which He was then eating Himself & which He thought excellent—

Nobody is so constantly happy in doing a kind Act as His Majesty, & I now profited of a fresh Instance of his goodness—

In the course of this day, while on board, His Majesty observed to Me, that He did not think The Prince of Wales liked the expedition— It grieved Me to hear Him say so, but circumstances had been too palpable, not to have perceived as much.

I was silent on his remark—perhaps it might have been less prudent, than wrong, to have told Him My own opinion—but I said nothing—I regretted however, that He had Himself made some of those Observations, that I had, for these indeed had not been disguised—

At Five o'Clock His Majesty's Post Chaise appeared at Erith, & with My Coach. Immediately He quitted *The Augusta* & stepped into his Chaise, commanding Me to join Him tomorrow at Windsor—

Without delay Lord Lothian, Colonel Townsend & Myself got into our Coach, & arrived in Town entertained with His Lordship's satire on many, & his abuse of almost every thing which had occurred, from the beginning to the end of this expedition— Lord Lothian among others made this Observation to Me, "Mark you my words—The Prince has been kept out too long, & He will in future be disgusted—" I replied that I should be truly sorry, that any thing should disgust Him with so honorable a profession, but that I hoped every body who wished Him well, would fix the value of it, on his Mind.

We all arrived at My Brother's House in St. James's Square from whence My Party spread to Their own homes—

Wednesday Aug.st 22^d

I arose by times this Morning to arrange every thing previous to My departure for Windsor—

I order'd The Equerry Coach to proceed on to Cranford Bridge, & there to wait My arrival.

I went in My Phaeton to Wandsworth Hill anxious to make my Enquiries respecting Lady Stormont, who was at this time just brought to bed of Her third Son *— I was made happy in finding that all was well, & that Her-self & Child were going on prosperously, & I received excellent Accounts from Lord Stormont & Miss Murray ** † during My short visit at Wandsworth Hill, all of which I treasured up for Windsor, where I knew they would be well received—‡

From hence I drove through Roehampton, & through Richmond Park to Richmond, thence crossing Richmond Bridge, by Isleworth I came to Hounslow Town End, & immediately after I came to Cranford Bridge where I found My Coach ready to receive Me in which I reached Windsor in good dinner time—

In the Evening Their Majesties and Princesses walked some time on the Terrace. Returned to The Queen's Lodge to Tea & The evening closed with the usual harmony of the King's Band—

From a hint His Majesty gave Me this Evening in the Music Room, I am much mistaken, if a long ride is not intended for tomorrow, & the long absence on board Ship, has probably given spirit, to the Intention.

* The Hon.^{ble} Charles Murray.

** Afterwards Lady Elizabeth Hatton.

† Lady Stormont's step-daughter.

‡ Lady Stormont succeeded to the Earldom of Mansfield in her own right, on the death of Lord Chief Justice Mansfield, her husband's uncle. In 1797 she married The Hon. Robert Fulke Greville.

III. RETURN TO WINDSOR

Thursday Aug^t 23^d

I attended His Majesty this Morning at 7 o'Clock to his Stables— Fully intent on having a smart ride, He here made choice of the Horses which should attend Him, & likewise sent for his Map of the Environs of Windsor, & which included 20 Miles around it— After an attentive Survey of it, His Majesty decided that his Morning's ride should be to Clermont—Lord Clive's—*

As usual went to Chapel at 8 o'Clock breakfasted afterwards, & at half past nine H: M^y mounted his Horse— Her Majesty attended by Lady Courtown went in Her Phaeton, drove by a Postillion.

Our road was through Egham, Chertsey, Weybridge & Cobham to Clermont where We arrived after a quick & very hot ride.

His Majesty previous to setting out, had order'd Horses to be sent on to Weybridge quietly, to releive those We rode to Clermont & that We might find them fresh on our return from that place. On our arrival at Clermont the distance was found greater than had been calculated, & therefore H. M.^y order'd that a Servant should be sent to Weybridge, with directions for the Horses which were waiting there, to advance from thence to Cobham, in order that they might be nearer to Us—& by which manoeuvre, they would be brought within two miles of Us at Clermont, & thereby the Horses We had there with Us, would be much releived in their day's Work—

* Son of the great Lord Clive of Indian fame whom he succeeded in 1774. He was himself Governor of Madras from 1798–1803, when he was created Earl of Powis.

The Servant blunder'd this plain Message— He went to Weybridge, & directed The King's Servants to make all the haste they could with our relay Horses to Clermont, instead of directing Them to Cobham as He had been order'd to do— In consequence just as We were leaving Clermont, We saw our relays, arriving in a lather, & nearly blown. His Majesty was much displeased & none of His Party satisfied— The Prince's Horses were also included in the inconveniences of this blunder—

His Majesty waited some time till his favorite Mare Bounce had recovered Her Wind, & then mounted Her on his return. As the day was very sultry & that My old Horse Perreau had come very smartly in his place to Clermont, I determin'd to ride Fairy back the whole way, as She was at this time, the freshest—

All being again Mounted, off we set & harder than before— It was not long e'er the impression of the Heat & pace, began to shew on some of the Cavalry— The Queen's Phaeton Horses (as well they might) gave in first— She was obliged to leave Them at Cobham, taking from thence Post Horses— Two of the Servants Horses tired & crippled, were obliged to be left here also, & the Servants completed their ride, on Post Horses—

In the way back His Majesty passed a Canal, just as a Barge was passing through a Lock— He alighted, looked at the process, & staid until the Barge had cleared the Lock—

During this time Her Majesty's Phaeton was continueing proper way—& it kept His Majesty in a long & smart gallop, e'er He could again overtake the Queen's Carriage, which He resolv'd to do, & which He at last accomplished.

Before We reached Windsor more than one Horse shewed symptoms of distress, & which a burst across Windsor Park decid'd upon some—

To Fairy's credit be it recorded, that She led the way through Windsor Park, to The Queen's Lodge—

After cooling ourselves, which was not easy to do, We dined— After dinner it was announced to Sir John Dyer,

who attended the Prince to Clermont, that his Horse Shuffler had died of his day's work— On enquiry the account proved but too correct— Sir John regretted his loss, for He had lost a favorite Horse— The active workings of his good heart were instantly awake—

He exclaimed "Poor Shuffler! Well—I have but to reproach Myself on this last day of our Acquaintance, that I pressed you on with one Smart Cut, in Windsor Park—"

His Majesty in talking over the Alert of this day, owned that His best Mare Bounce could not have gone two miles further—

Our ride this day has been a severe one on our Horses, they having carried Us between 40 & 50 Miles in a short time in a very hot day, & thro' some miles of heavy Sands, which were passed at the same pace as others on more favorable ground—

After hearing of Poor Shuffler's fate I sent to enquire after My little Fairy & happy was I to receive report from My Groom that She was well, & at that time feeding heartily.

This Evening Their Majesties & the Royal Family walked on the Terrace, enjoying the cooler Breeze, after the uncommon heat of the day—

After Tea—Music began as usual & I had the pleasure of hearing Her Majesty sing "The Lass of Patties Mill," very prettily. She has a very pleasing Voice, & compass of it—

Friday Aug^t 24th.

I went early this morning to My Stables to see how Fairy was after Her Exertions of Yesterday. I found Her as well as Ever—

I did not stay long with My Horses, but repaired to The King's Stables where I found H. M.^y on the same enquiry after Bounce, & the rest of his Cavalry, & of Whom, there was good report.

At Eight o'Clock Their Majesties went to Chapel. At Half past nine o'Clock I attended His Majesty to the Door

of His Post Chaise which was now waiting to carry Him to his Levee at St. James's.

After his Majestys departure General Budé, Colonel Digby & Myself took a pleasant quiet ride— We begun it by riding up the Long Walk, to The Duke of Cumberland's Lodge, & thence to shady parts of the Great Park— This day's ride, was the reverse of that of yesterday— We did not go out of a foot's pace the whole day, & to our hearts content we enjoyed the cool Breezes under Shade, & admired various succeeding prospects at our leisure.

We dined at our usual Hour & after dinner I received His Majesty on his return from St. James's Palace. He prepared directly for his Walk on The Terrace with His Family, After which the Evening wound up with Tea & a crash of Music in the Music Room at the Queen's Lodge.

Thus wind up our days, & evenings in regular Succession of occupation, chequer'd occasionally with the varieties of the moment, & as fancy & inclination may direct—

Saturday Aug.st 25th.

This Morning my usual Early occupations engaged My attention— I went with His Majesty to his Stables & afterwards to Chapel, before his Breakfast.

The Horses & The Queen's Phaeton were order'd— At half past nine o'Clock His Majesty mounted his Horse, & attended by The Prince of Wales, & accompanied by Her Majesty in Her Phaeton, the cavalcade proceeded to Delafont the Seat of Sir William Young and about eight miles from Windsor— Our road to it was through Iver.

Sir William's House is situated in a flat— It is an old Mansion—whose Windows are quite in the old fashion stile, with Stone Mullions.

As is usual on such Visits, Their Majesties went over every part of this House— They staid some time in the Library which Her Majesty examined with some attention— I likewise indulged myself with an occasional peep among its contents— The Collection was on mixed Subjects— History, & French Novels, were principally conspicuous on the

Shelves— The latter were in general of good & Select Authors— Her Majesty in passing quickly over Their names, observed on some, & approved of others. With distinction She mentioned Madame de Sevigné's Letters, whose manner of relating trifling circumstances, She observed made Them interesting & pleasing to the Reader—

The Trout Stream which runs by the House, is pretty, & refreshing to the Sight— We followed The Walk which extends on its Margin & came to a bad grotto in which was an Urn with the following Inscription.

“ Friendship deserted by The World
“ Has found a Refuge Here.”

I know not whence the impressive reflection, has settled in this retired place—

Returned from this moderate excursion at an earlier hour than usual, I found time to stroll into the Town of Windsor, before dinner, & in the Yard of the Castle Inn, I accidentally espied My Brother Charles's Phaeton there & which surprised Me, as I thought He had been at this time at Warwick Castle.

He dined with Me, & his presence at all times most welcome to Me, was now particularly so, for He brought excellent Accounts of our Friends at Wandsworth Hill, where He had dined yesterday— He reports, that Lady Stormont's Baby is a very fine one, & very like Her Son George.

Not the worse for that—

After dinner all were summoned to The Terrace— Charles was preparing for it, when some of the Courtiers, on his ascending the Terrace Steps, in a Round Hat, queried the Etiquette. My Brother paused, & retired, but I brought Him forward again, with his Head properly surmounted, by one of My Military Hats— His appearance thus equipped, diverted their Majesties & the Prince of Wales much, & who listen'd with much satisfaction to the processes, which had occasioned his present equipment—

All this Charles carried off extremely well, & He was much gratified & flattered by the gracious reception He met with on the Terrace—

After the promenade My Brother proceeded in his Phaeton to Salt Hill from whence He intends to start early tomorrow morning for Warwick Castle—

After Tea, Music was heard as usual at the Queen's Lodge, & I was summon'd from the Music Room to the Queens Apartments to play at Cribbage, with the Princess Royal Princess Augusta & Miss Hamilton, to make out the Party—

Sunday Augst 26th

At Eight o'Clock Their Majesties attended Chapel in the Castle—

After Breakfast Their Majesties & The Princesses heard Cathedral Service in St. George's Chapel.

After Church I attended His Majesty to his Stables; from whence He returned to the Queen's Lodge, intimating that He should not again call for Me before dinner. On this I put on My Boots & took a quiet solitary ride to Datchet Bridge, then saunter'd on the Banks of the Thames towards Eton, & returned the same way to Windsor—

On My return I dressed & ordering a pair of Horses to be put to My Coach, I went to dine at Ditton with Lord Beaulieu about three Miles from Windsor— *

From hence I returned in good time to My duties, & I met His Majesty at his Stables a little after Six o'Clock, a punctuality He had not expected, as He knew where I had dined.

I had the honor of attending Him with The Queen & Royal Family to the Terrace, which was uncommonly crowded this Evening—

The Evening concluded at the Queen's Lodge as usual,

* Edward Hussey took the name of Montagu on marrying Isabella, widow of the second Duke of Manchester. He was later created Earl of Beaulieu.

with Tea & Music— Mr. Burton * the Composer was in the Music Room— I had never seen Him, but I have often admired some of his compositions played as I have heard Them by Lady Hamilton &c. †

He appears to Me to have great execution, & He plays with much rapidity— He is a Coxcomb in his Way, fancies He can sing—which He cannot— He appears however much satisfied with Himself—He played many airs this Evening— Some were of his own composition ; some were by Gluck, of whom He seems very fond— Some of these I liked, especially when unaccompanied with his Voice— He appears a perfect enthusiast in Music— He played until Supper was announced—

Monday Aug.st 27th

I attended Their Majesties this Morning to Their private Chapel in the Castle, and after breakfast They went privately to The Cathedral where His Majesty & the Prince of Wales attended by The Duke of Montagu made their respective offerings at The Altar as Knights Companions of The Garter.

The Offering consisted in limited Sums— The King gave Ten Guineas in Gold & Ten Shillings in Silver.

The Prince gave Five Guineas & Five Shillings—

The Duke of Montagu as other Knights Companions of The Order would have done, gave on this occasion Two Guineas & Two Shillings.

These appear odd Sums, but the offerings must be in Gold & in Silver—

After Prayers His Majesty left his Stall, & advanced to The Altar with a slow & steady Step, & coming to it, He bowed, & kneeling He gave his Offering into a Gilt Plate

* Famous as a harpsichordist more than as a composer.

† The first wife of Sir Wm. Hamilton, Robt. Greville's uncle. The beautiful Emma Hart, who was destined to be Lady Hamilton, was at this time the mistress of Sir Harry Featherstonehaugh, whom she forsook the following year for Charles Greville.

held by The Dean of the Chapter, who was attended by one of the Canons of Windsor.

The Prince of Wales on leaving his Stall observed the same ceremonies only on his quitting his Stall, He bowed to The King, & He again bowed on reaching the Steps in front of the Altar—

The same ceremonies were attended to by Him, on his return to his Stall from the Altar.

This ceremony over, & which was impressively attended to in all its parts, The King returned to The Queen's Lodge to resume his usual occupations—

He decided for a ride, & which He extended into the Forest—making this his way to His Kennel of Stag Hounds at Swinley, distant about 7 miles from Windsor—

After having inspected the Kennel, He made a rapid ride back to Windsor— The Sight of His Stag Hounds not improbably decided Him for this smart hunting pace to The Queen's Lodge—

After dinner The Terrace invited Him to his accustomed Walk, & where this Evening, crouds were waiting to see Him & the Royal Family.

In the Evening Mr. Burton again appeared in the Music Room.

This Night has decided My Opinions on his merits— The opportunity occur'd when He said, He would give Her Majesty a Specimen of the best French Music, that had ever been adapted to a Song— He announced this Specimen by the well known name of Ipheginie. He begun by reading the Words to Her Majesty, in order that She might be the better enabled to judge of the excellence of the Music, as adapted to Them— None in the room I am sure were more attentive than I was at this time—for Ipheginie had been my early favorite, & every word, still brought back Ideas, that were past & gone—

“ It came on my troubled Soul like a Beam on the dark heaving Ocean, when it bursts from a Cloud, & brightens the foamy side of a Wave—* ”

* From Ossian's “ Colna-dona.”

“T’was like the memory of joys that are past, Pleasing tho’ mournful to the Soul—” *

It was impossible to be more disappointed than I was after being reminded of these impressive Words, to hear Him begin the song, with a Voice loud & unharmonious, and as He introduced variations of his Own, forgetting throughout, that tender expression which so well becomes the Subject— He has not a Soul to regulate those Sounds, which by their natural, & Simple Utterance will vibrate on a feeling heart, and make it watch those Dear Adieus, with all the Anxiety of reality—

The Evening concluded with an Intimation from His Majesty, that He would ride tomorrow to Bulstrode—

Tuesday Aug.st 28th

Their Majesties went to Chapel this Morning, and after Breakfast The Horses & Carriages appeared at the Door by Ten o’Clock.

His Majesty drove The Queen in his Phaeton & Pair—

The Princess Royal & Princess Augusta attended by Miss Hamilton, went in the Queen’s Post Coach—

The Prince of Wales drove his Phaeton with a Set of Horses—

I rode a Horse of The Prince’s called Orderly, upon trial, I being at this time in negotiation for Him—

On Their Majesties arrival at Bulstrode The Duchess of Portland & Old Mrs. Delaney were ready to receive Them. A very handsome breakfast was prepared— After partaking of these refreshments Their Majesties walk’d about the House—

After some time had elapsed They became anxious to know what had become of The Prince of Wales, who had not arrived at this time— He did however soon after, & He now accounted to The King & Queen for his absence, which was occasioned by a circumstance which at the time threaten’d more mischief than what actually happen’d—

* From Ossian’s “Death of Cuthullin.”

In coming through the Gate-way of Windsor Castle, a chaise which was waiting at Lord Courtown's door (the Driver being in the House) ran off, and rushed violently through the Gate way, just as The Prince of Wales was going through in his Phaeton. Luckily His Royal Highness escaped without personal Injury— His wheel Horse was lamed by The fore wheel of the Chaise, & the Harness was torn off— This occasioned a delay until a fresh Horse & fresh harness could be procured—

Orderly carried Me well on this excursion, & as I have not spurs so long as those which His Royal Highness usually wears, nor perhaps do I use Mine so often, We agreed tolerably well together on the whole—

He gave Me of most of his Varieties in the course of this ride & in Bulstrode Park animated by a rush of Horses, & playful on a Green Sod, He sprung about so much, that My hair came down on My back, which diverted The Princess & Miss Hamilton, who saw it, much—

I felt much obliged to The Duchess of Portland for Her civility to Me, & I was delighted with Mrs. Delaney—

His Majesty was so good as to obtain Me a sight of Her cuttings out, of Flowers Plants &c which are truly very curious & very accurate performances, & wonderful productions for Her very advanced Age.*

There are many good Pictures at Bulstrode— Some rare Birds, much Choice old China, & some fine Specimens of Minerals, &c—

A short Visit does not do justice to all which is to be met within Doors, & out of Doors at Bulstrode— I saw enough to be well satisfied, that its Possessor, was happily disposed to be amused, rationally, innocently, & permanently.

Their Majesties & the Royal Party returned to The Queen's Lodge, & dined at their usual hour—

After our Dinner the Prince of Wales honored Us with a long Visit in our dining Room & having purchased a

* Eighty-one years.

gay Nag of His Royal Highness in the Morning, I thought it no treason in selling Him one of Mine in the Evening, to which He had taken a fancy— I indulged Him therefore in the purchase of a Black strong Mare, which I had bought for this Waiting, of Admiral Byron—

The Evening proving blustering & windy Their Majesties did not walk on the Terrace—

Wednesday Aug.st 29th

My Waiting now drawing towards its regular close, I went this morning at 7 o'Clock to My Stables, & gave directions for Fairy & Orderly to remove to London— Leaving Perreau & My Chestnut Mare here, in case I should return to Windsor, & that His Majesty should chuse to ride—

After Chapel & Breakfast I attended Their Majesties to Their Carriage—

I then got into Mine, & followed Them to Town—

On my arrival in Town, I ordered My Phaeton, & drove to Wandsworth Hill, & returned delighted with the excellent continued good Accounts I there received, of Lady Stormont & Her Infant Son—

Thursday Aug.st 30th

I indulged Myself this Morning with a longer Nap than usual— After breakfast I rode Orderly for an hour— We are becoming good Friends, & his fine figure arrests attention as He bounds along—

I came home & prepared to attend the Drawing Room— After the Drawing Room I had the honour of dining with The Prince of Wales at The Queen's House—

After dinner His Majesty sent for Me to The Apartment in which He was drinking Tea with The Queen & The Princesses.

H. M^y enquired of Me if I was to go back to Windsor tomorrow— I told Him I had made provisional arrangements, as I was not yet certain, if another of His Majesty's Equerries was come to relieve Me—

His Majesty was pleased to express satisfaction at my Attentions, telling Me at the same time, that if another was arrived, that He would take care of Me—

Her Majesty at the same time was pleased to add “I desire you will come tomorrow to Windsor.”

Of course My return to Windsor is now fixed.

The Carriages being now announced, Their Majesties prepared to go to the Play.

I took My Post at The Carriage Door as His Majesty enter'd it—

The Play was very crouded, & the House extremely hot—

The Performance was very tiresome being The Beggar's Opera reversed— The Men appearing in Women's Characters, & The Women assuming the Mens— It is to be hoped this fancy will not spread—

Return'd to the Queen's House after the Play, made My bow with the other attendants to Their Majesties, & settled quietly in My Old Quarters in St. James's Square for the night—

Friday Aug^t 31st.

Their Majesties left Town for Windsor this day— My moves beyond this day becoming rather uncertain, I decided to go in My Phaeton to Windsor and which would be ready there for Me as wanted.

I went by Kew & dined there with Sir John Dyer, the Prince of Wales's Equerry, setting out again from thence, in time to receive Their Majesties on their arrival at Windsor, & which I did—

On alighting from his Carriage The King immediately went to his Stables & I accompanied Him—& from Thence He returned to take his Walk on the Terrace with the Queen & His Family—

The Evening afterwards was occupied as usual with Music &c at the Queen's Lodge—

This night I received a Letter from General Johnston, whose Waiting as Equerry to His Majesty, was to succeed

Mine, requesting Me to take his Waiting for Him until Tuesday next.

Saturday Sept. 1st.

In consequence of General Johnston's Letter to Me, I sent this Morning Early for My Two Horses, which I had order'd to Town on Wednesday last, & directed that they should now return again to Windsor—

Before Chapel H. M^y went to His Stables, where He order'd his Horses for this Mornings ride. I took this opportunity of mentioning to H. M^y that I had heard from General Johnston late in the Evening, & explained everything—

His Majesty was pleased to order one of his own Horses (Poppet) for Me to ride with Him this Morning—

His Majesty mounted his Horse at half past Nine o'Clock— The Queen went in Her Phaeton— Our Ride was to Hedsor Lord Boston's not far from Taplow. The House is a new one— It stands on very rising ground, a situation much improved from that of the Old House which was in a low situation near the Church. The offices of the New House are underground as in London Houses, but which I do not think suits a single House in convenience or in appearance—

The View from the back part of the House is extremely pretty, looking under the foliage of very lofty Trees upon an extended Plain, thro' which The Thames winds in a very pleasing course— This cheerful landscape terminates with distant Hills & which improve it. The Valley below the House is cheerfuled by many Villages; some of these are on the banks of The Thames, & principal amongst Them is Cookham—

The Prince of Wales was not of this Party— He was tempted by the day to Partridge Shooting— His Royal Highness had tolerable sport, and at his return He seemed well pleased with an amusement new to Him.

Their Majesties &c walked as usual on The Terrace & the Evening concluded as usual at the Queen's Lodge—

Sunday Sept. 2^d

Their Majesties went to usual Prayers in the Castle at 8 o'Clock, and after breakfast they went to St. George's Chapel—

At their return from thence The King left Her Majesty at The Queen's Lodge, & I attended Him in his Walk— He walked about a mile on the road to Datchet Bridge & then entered the little Park at Lord Pomfrets Lodge—

In this walk I had the honor of much gracious conversation on various Subjects—

After returning with H. M^y to the Queen's Lodge I found I have more than an Hour to spare before dressing time, I therefore order'd My Phaeton & drove to Lord Beaulieu's—who I did not find at home.

The Terrace was extremely crouded this Evening & Their Majesties after a long walk on it, retired to the Queen's Lodge to music &c.

Monday Sept. 3^d

This Morning I attended H. M^y to His Stables at 7 o'Clock— He order'd his Horses for this Mornings ride & The Phaeton for The Queen & the Princess Augusta to be in readiness at the same time—

Their Majesties attended Chapel at the usual hour & after Breakfast His Majesty mounted his Horse, deciding to take a gentle ride. After some time riding through Lanes, We came out upon Maidenhead Thicket Rode across it, & came to The Henley Road on which We continued until We were within 5 miles of Henley. Leaving the Henley road His Majesty crossed to the Reading road, & again came on Maidenhead Thicket, & from thence through Lanes He returned to Windsor—

The gentleness of the ride did not continue throughout— The last four miles of it was at a very smart gallop, the consequence of which was that H. M^ys favorite Horse General which He rode, was lamed.

I had better luck with Poppet who having carried Me

pleasantly throughout this ride, I returned safe & sound to His Majesty's Stables—

On the Way back in one of the Lanes Their Majesties met Mr. Powney * The Member for Windsor who was shooting— He presented Them with some Partridges & a Landrail—

The usual Walk on the Terrace & Music at the Queen's Lodge wound up this day.

Tuesday Sept. 4.th

His Majesty was at his Stables this Morning at Seven o'Clock—& made his Arrangements for his ride this day— He selected horses for the first part of it, & ordered those which He proposed to send on as relays to Denham—

Their Majesties went to Chapel at 8 o'Clock, & after a short breakfast, He mounted his Horse, & We set out for Moore Park the Seat of Sir Lawrence Dundas.†

The Queen, Princess Royal, & Princess Augusta without any other Attendant went in Her Majesties Post Coach & Four, & for which Relays were sent on with those of His Majesty.

I was the only Attendant on His Majesty in this day's excursion.

I thought Moore Park a very pretty Place, with a pleasant & cheerful surrounding country— The grounds around the Mansion are well wooded & are prettily interspersed with Hill & Dale— The look into the Vale under lofty Trees is striking; & it became at this time more Interesting by the bustle of numerous Hay makers, who were getting in a Second crop of Hay from the Meadows, & which much improved the general Landscape.

The Mansion is very spacious, & has in it various good

* In the House of Commons Wags often called Him The King's Pony nor were They less jocose on Gen^l Sir George Howard who they called The King's Long Tail. RFG.

† Grandfather of the 1st Earl of Zetland.

Rooms— The Gallery in particular is worth notice; It is handsomely & expensively fitted up— I counted above 100 Windows in this House—

On Their Majesty's arrival They found Lady Dundas & Lady Charlotte Dundas— Mr. Thomas Dundas & his Nine Children—

A very handsome breakfast was prepared for the Royal Visitors— With a profusion of fruits which were superiorly excellent in all their Varieties—

On Their Majesties Leaving Moor Park some Women strewed Flowers on the Road before The King's Horse, & The Hand Bells rung their merriest peel—while the Bells in all the Villages through which He passed in this neighbourhood, resounded in their successive changes, & vibrated in the air, a hearty Welcome—

A Visit to the Stables to enquire into the general State of the Cavalry, preceded His Majesty's Walk on the Terrace this Evening—& in which He was accompanied by the Queen & the Princesses.

This Evening I received a note from General Johnston, acquainting Me that He was then at Salt Hill—but as His Majesty had this Morning desired me to stay until Friday next, I desired General Johnston not to come to Windsor, as His Majesty's late Intimation to Me, would release Him from Attendance until Friday next & that He might consider Himself at liberty to go to Town or Elsewhere, until that time, as might best suit his own convenience—

Wednesday Sept. 5th

This Morning proved very rainy notwithstanding which His Majesty went to His stables before eight o'Clock—

He was at Chapel at the usual hour, & after His Breakfast I attended Him to his Carriage, which was now ready to carry Him to His Levee at St. James's Palace—

At 12 o'Clock notwithstanding the Rain was not yet over, I thought a promise I had made to the Prince of Wales the last evening to meet Him at Egham Races,* claimed My

* Egham Races were discontinued after 1884.

punctual Attendance there— Accordingly ordering My Phaeton I sett out for Egham Course, where there was but a thin Attendance— If I must say the truth I should not have been much disappointed if the Duke of Cumberland had not been of the number—

His Royal Highness on seeing Me sent for Me to his Stand, where at this time was the Prince of Wales— The Duke's conversation was not slack. His anecdotes sufficiently numerous, but not all worthy of repetition— I wished Myself in My Phaeton again.

On His Majesty's return from Town I received Him on his alighting from his Carriage.

The Evenings Terrace & Music at the Queen's Lodge after the Walk closed the operations of this day—

I had the honour of playing a rubber of Whist at the Prince of Wales's Table this evening in the Queens Apartment.

Thursday Sept' 6th

His Majesty was early at his Stables this Morning previous to his going to Chapel. After He had breakfast He went into Windsor Great Park to try a Hunter which The Prince of Wales wished to part with. I attended His Majesty on My New Horse Orderly, who on passing My Stable became restive & troublesome— He reared & plunged not a little, and shewed more devil, than I had suspected— He did not however carry his point, & I pressed Him on sharply in order to overtake The King, who by this time was considerably ahead—

On overtaking Him H. M^y continued a smart gallop to the Kennel of his Stag Hounds at Swinley, about 7 Miles from Windsor— While here, His Majesty fixed with his Huntsman to hunt a Stag on Saturday next, & the Hounds were ordered to be ready on that Morning at Brick Bridge about 10 Miles from Windsor—

His Majesty came back from his ride early in the day, and on his arrival at the Queen's Lodge He called on the Queen & they both went to the Castle where Mr. Boydell

the Engraver was at this time, occupied in an engraving of one of the Pictures— From Windsor Castle They both Walked on the Terrace for a short time, & in this Visit & Walk I had the honor of attending Them—

The Morning's Walk on the Terrace did not interrupt the usual Evening one—

This Evening in the Music Room at the Queen's Lodge His Majesty in a very flattering manner desired Me to stay until Sunday next on which day He promised I should be at liberty.

Friday Sept. 7th

After Morning Prayers & breakfast I waited on His Majesty to His Carriage— He was going to His Levee in Town—

I went again at Twelve o'Clock to Egham Course— The day proved most favorable & there was a gay & numerous Attendance— Among the gay Carriages exclusive of The Prince of Wales's was Lady Betty Delmé's Phaeton drawn by Six long-tail White Ponies drove by a Coachman & Postillion—*

As our dinner is always very early I could only stay to see Two Heats run, & afterwards I returned to the Queen's Lodge in My Phaeton—

On His Majesty's return from The Levee I was at My post & had the honor of handing Him from his Post Chaise—

Terrace, & Music as usual in the evening—

Saturday Sept. 8th.

His Majesty prepared for hunting, left the Queen's Lodge at eight o'Clock this Morning.

Previous to our mounting our Hacks, H. M^y had equipped Me with a Cap & hunting Whip— I attended Him thus well equipped to Cover—in a gallop—

At Brick bridge His Majesty changed his Hacks &

* Lady Betty Delmé, daughter of 4th Earl of Carlisle, was a great beauty at the Court. Her portrait by Reynolds fetched 11,000 gns.

mounted His Hunter—and He was so good as to lend Me a good hunter of his, called North West for this day's chace—

It was not long after the Hounds were thrown into Cover, when The Stag was roused, & who for above Two hours ran smartly from cover to cover— He crossed The Brooke three times— The last attempt proved fatal to Him— He was caught endeavoring to get up its steep & encumber'd Bank, & could not be Saved—

There was a numerous Feild—I counted upwards of Sixty Horses in The Feild— Some Ladies saw the beginning of the Chace in their Phaeton— Mrs. Neville— Miss Stevenson &c—

The Chace over I galloped with His Majesty, attended by one Groom to Windsor.

In the course of this ride His Majesty was pleased to hold conversation with Me on variety of subjects, & in the kindest & most gracious manner— Among others H. M^y at this time gave Me the history & rumours of Miss Stevenson's Marriage with Lord Lothian—who He appears to Me to know well, & not to mistake.

“Tho' fond of beauty (said H. M^y) I do not think He would be so foolish at his Age to marry Her, especially with such a Family as He has— I consider in this Instance these to be similar professions only, to those His Lordship always makes to every pretty face He meets, & should He be baffled here, as He has been before, He can as soon console Himself under a disappointment as most others— *

This day I dined with Lord Fauconberg whose Reg^t. of Yorkshire Volunteers were doing distinguished duty at Windsor—

I returned to My duties on The Terrace this evening Where Their Majesties walked for some time— These usual Walks abundantly gratify numerous Visitors, who resort here from afar, as well as from the Neighbourhood to have an opportunity of seeing the Royal Family—

* These Royal predictions proved true. The Marquess, whose wife had been dead just 12 months, and by whom he had eight children, did not marry again.

Sunday Sept. 9th

I attended Their Majesties this Morning to the Chapel in the Castle, and afterwards on their going to the Cathedral.

In the course of this Morning Her Majesty wished Me joy in a most gracious manner on My Waiting having concluded, & (as She was pleased to add), performed so much to Every Body's satisfaction. His Majesty took leave of Me by saying, That "He was very sorry My Waiting was over.—"

At parting I must say a something for Myself—

With truth I now own, that I have experienced so much condescension and marked kindness from The King, The Queen and all the Royal Family, throughout this My first Waiting as Equerry to His Majesty, as to have rendered this, the happiest Month of My Life—

It remains to Me but to hope, for fresh opportunities of marking My grateful recollections, by Every strict Attention to My future Duties as Equerry to His Majesty, & connecting it, with unvaried respect to The Queen, & to The Royal Family—

Robert Fulk Greville,
Equerry to
His Majesty.

London Sept. 1781.

NB

I continued with The King, as His Equerry sixteen yrs & a half, & until My Marriage with Louisa, Countess of Mansfield, In Her own Right.

His Majesty very shortly after this, was pleased to appoint Me one of The Grooms of His Bedchamber, & which situation I held, until the Spring 1819, & during some preceding years attached to The King's Windsor Establishment.

AN ALERT OF HIS MAJESTY ON FOOT

During a long continued hard Frost, His Majesty one fine clear Morning, when intending to remove from the Queen's Lodge to the Queen's House in London, decided He would take a long Walk on the Road, towards London, & on this occasion, He called General Grenville, Comptroller of the Duke of York's Household Establishment, Colonel Goldsworthy, Equerry to His M.^y, and Col^l Digby Vice Chamberlain to The Queen, who were at this time at The Queen's Lodge, to accompany Him on this Occasion. The former, I could observe, was by no means a Volunteer on this Alert, & which circumstance perhaps contributed not a little to animate His Majesty's exertions on this Occasion.

Previous to the Start, My directions from The King, were to attend to the progress of the Carriages, consisting of his Own Post Chaise & Four, with his Escort, and the Equerry Coach with its Set of Horses—H. M. now fixed the precise time for their setting out, giving Him so much law, & thereby He regulated his Calculation on the probable distance of his Walk—

In communicating these Commands to Me His Majesty gave Me positive directions not to start before the time He had now fixed, & cautioned Me particularly by no means to hurry on the road, but to proceed on, by a fair & easy pace. All this was most punctually & carefully attended to by Me, and under such directions I overtook His Majesty with the Carriages just by the Enterance Gates, leading into the Duke of Northumberlands approach, to Sion House. On my coming up His Majesty questioned Me closely, to ascertain if I had not started from Windsor, before the time He had particularly allotted for My departure, & likewise if I had not hurried on the road. I assured H. M, and

most truly, that I had not, & that I had been very particular in the observance of His Majesty's directions; On this He smiled and said, "He was afraid General Grenville would be disappointed at the shortness of the Walk, but which He owned He wished should have been continued into London—"

His Majesty seem'd by no means distressed with this Walk— He got into His Carriage, & drove off from hence to the Queen's House.

General Grenville—Col! Goldsworthy and Col! Digby now accepted places in My Coach, & in Justice to the former I must own, that no regrets at the shortness of his Walk escaped Him during the rest of the Way, & He appeared perfectly reconciled to the easier luxuries of the Carriage, and which accorded with his better Comforts—

IMPORTATION OF MERINO SHEEP *

The Importation of Merino Spanish Sheep into this Country some years ago is well known to most, but on what occasion and under what particular Auspices is still known but to very few.

The Speculation originated in an accidental circumstance & it begun under the King's protection and in this Manner.

One day, when I had the honor of attending His Majesty as His Equerry, after his ride from The Queen's House to Kew He walked to Richmond Gardens & He was attended by Me alone.

Here while His Majesty was looking at his Wiltshire Flock of Sheep, I recollected accurately the details of a flock of Spanish Sheep which had been imported into Saxony, where they prospered successfully & had extended great improvement to the Flocks of that Country.

These details I now mentioned to The King, & to whom they were new. He was struck with the Account, & having paused upon it a little in fixed consideration, His Majesty asked Me if some Spanish Sheep might not be procured & brought into this Country. I readily replied that I thought they might but that I was not prepared at once to decide, by what means, tho' I was well aware, that the success of the Experiment, would much depend on the secrecy, with which the Enquiries were made. His Majesty then commanded Me to give further consideration on the means most advisable & to report the result to Him, the next time He took his Ride. Such opportunity I had a few days after, & on being asked by H: M.' what progress I had made, I informed Him that I had seen Sir Joseph Banks and to whom I had

* In the year 1788.

in confidence imparted the late conversation I had had the honor of holding on the Subject of Spanish Sheep, and I reported how much Sir Joseph Banks had been interested on My having informed Him of H. Majesty's Wishes respecting them, & that He had added, if his humble services could be thought at all useful, that His Majesty might command their utmost exertion— The King instantly replied "Sir Joseph Banks is just the Man. Tell Him from Me that I thank Him, & that his assistance will be most welcome."

In consequence I took an early opportunity of waiting on Sir Joseph Banks, & to whom I communicated the gracious message I had received for Him. He was in consequence honored with an immediate interview, at which the subject was fully talked over, & the speculation was instantly & carefully begun. In the progress everything met with that success which judicious arrangements from the first so well encouraged, and by gradual means a sufficient number of prime Spanish Sheep were imported for His Majesty, as to put all disappointment, as to the means of obtaining the full operation of future experiment, out of the question. Then, & not 'till then, the secret began to transpire, and not very long after the then Prime Minister in Spain (whose name I do not now recollect) sent a small flock of Spanish Sheep to His Majesty as a present as was thought at first, an Inquiry however was afterwards made from that quarter to know how the Flock was going on, & it was accompanied with this hint, that if H:M. should enquire what would be deemed an acceptable return, that a Set of Horses would be very gratifying. A hint so plain, could not be so well overlooked, therefore a set of Horses were selected from H. Majesty's stables and sent.*

His Majesty's Spanish Flock soon became numerous, and

* Subsequently a large Spanish Flock were sent by the Spanish Government to the King— Many died on the Passage— The rest were deliver'd at Kew & Richmond Gardens— Several Spanish Shepherds came with Them.— R.F.G.

anxious to extend throughout the Country a general benefit, He directed that a Spanish Ram Flock should be reared, & from which He made many presents. At this time H:M^{isty} was pleased to give Me some to distribute in Wales & from these I sent to My Friend Mr. Johnes of Havod in Cardiganshire & to Lord Cawdor in Pembrokeshire & to Mr. Morris of Clasemont near Swansea— In North Wales I sent to Mr. Yorke of Erddig in Flintshire & some I disposed of at Llangollen in Denbighshire for Mr. Edwards of Sharnberston near that romantic Town to disperse in that neighbourhood. Many inconveniences, however, occurred from His Majesty giving Sheep, & for which the applications became numerous. One of the most frequent inconveniences complained of, that often the young Rams were left many months before they were taken away. In consequence Sales were recommended to His Majesty & adopted latterly. At these the Sheep fetched enormous prices, but those who bought dear were likely to look well after them. At the first Sale, & which took place in the great field not far from the Pagoda & fronting the road from Richmond to Kew, a Captain MacArthur bought freely and He had at this time a valuable & numerous Flock of Sheep at Botany Bay.

Thus, from an accidental conversation I had with The King in Richmond Gardens, this speculation about Spanish Sheep, & which has been so actively maintained in this Country & so widely extended, originated in the first Instance & flourished afterwards under His Majesty's protecting Influence.

Merino Society.

This Society for the Improvement & extension of the Merino Breed of Sheep throughout the Kingdom was established in the year 1810 & of which at this time 1820 Sir Joseph Banks is President, & among a numerous List of Vice Presidents appears The Lord Vis^{ct} Castlereagh.

THE SECOND DIARY (1788-89)
(HIS MAJESTY'S FIRST ILLNESS)

HIS MAJESTY'S 1ST ILLNESS IN THE YEAR 1788-9 *

During a long term of many years, having had the honor of continuing Sixteen Years & a Half, as Equerry to The King, various & interesting occurrences have blended with my numerous Waitings, but none has been of a description so interesting & trying as that which attached so principally to Me, during My Waiting in the latter end of the year 1788, & which continued throughout the Months of January & of February of the Year 1789.

This period included, the beginning, the progress and the termination of that severe & most afflicting Malady which now visited Our Dear King, and for a long time involved Him in its dreadful consequences.

The first Symptoms or decided symptoms of this approaching Attack appeared during the last days of October, & these continued to the first days of November 1788, after which these symptoms became positive in their character, and announced decided calamity.

On these most unpleasant Accounts reaching Me, I lost no time in setting off from London to Windsor, in order that every possible Aid within my reach might be called upon on the Spot— Those of My Brother Equerries, who at this time were like Myself not in actual Waiting, hurried also to Windsor for the same purpose.

Our immediate Services were accepted, & We immediately shared painful duties ; as during the time The King remained in the Queen's Lodge at Windsor, & which was until his Removal to Kew on the 29th of November 1788,

* Although the illness of 1788-89 is usually referred to as the King's first illness, it is known that he was in danger of mental derangement on several previous occasions since his accession, which were kept as secret as possible.

His Equerries and His Pages had the Entire very responsible charge of keeping Him to His Apartment.

Lord Thurlow was at this time the Chancellor. He was the Queen's Principal Adviser, & He was now in daily attendance.

The Equerries & Pages kept up their attendances according to the directions established, & their duties were kept up day & night, under regular reliefs.

On His Majesty's removal to Kew, other regulations & Attendance took place—and then All The King's Equerries took their leave, except One Equerry in actual waiting, & now for the first time a Groom of His Majesty's Bedchamber was called upon for duty— His Waiting was fixed to be for two Weeks, & at the expiration of this time, another Groom of His Majesty's Bedchamber releived Him, in this allotted Waiting.

It was on Me that the regular Waiting as Equerry to His Majesty devolved, after The King's removal from Windsor to Kew took place, and thus has it been my peculiar lot, to have witnessed the whole course of this His Majesty's most afflicting Illness, having come to Windsor, where I begun immediate active duty, a very few days after His Majesty's serious attack begun, and I continued in waiting on His Person, under the same Roof, until His Physicians finally discontinued their attendance. After that I was Myself ultimately releived by General Manners, on Wednesday March the 4th 1789, & who then succeeded Me at Kew as Equerry in Waiting.

I. THE KING'S ILLNESS AT WINDSOR AND REMOVAL TO KEW

His Majesty had not long recovered from an Illness at Kew, before unpleasant symptoms of interrupted health appeared at his after residence at the Queen's Lodge at Windsor, and which was attended by new and unfavorable appearances in his manner— Those around Him perceived a change in his manner, and in his temper, and thought His Majesty had become more peevish than He used to be. He now talked much more than usual, and spoke to everybody on strange varieties of Subjects.

His incessant talking became at last so remarkable, that it was thought necessary to recommend H:M: to be a little more silent; His Physician Sir George Baker accordingly hinted to Him, that it was essential to his health to be less frequent and earnest in his conversations, which He did not take amiss, but on the contrary thanked Him for his advice— They continued however much the same after this— Those around Him frequently reminded Him that He was talking too much, and He often desisted on the hint—

Succeeding symptoms of approaching disorder appearing, it was judged necessary to propose His Majesty's removal to an apartment separate from the Queen's— With difficulty this was acceded to, but on condition that the Queen would promise to sleep in the next bedchamber to that in which He was to remove— This change took place on Wednesday the 5th of Nov: 1788.

In the Night H:M: found an opportunity of getting out of his Bed, and taking a Candle He open'd the Queen's Apartment, and coming gently to the bedside, He open'd the Curtains and looked in— Miss Goldsworthy who slept in the Queen's Room, and Her Majesty, were much

alarmed— The King looking Earnestly at the Queen, said “ I will confess the truth, I thought you had deceived Me, and that you was not here.” He then Expressed his satisfaction at not having been deceived, and with little persuasion He returned to his own room.

The next night the Queen was advised to remove to a more distant part of the Lodge at Windsor— The Doors of Her Apartments were fastend, and the King’s bed-chamber was afterwards constantly watched—

Nov. 6th

This Night however H.M: contrived somehow to slip past those who were in the room, and entering the adjoining one He there saw H.R.H. The Duke of York, Gen^l De Budé* & Colonel Digby.** He seem’d much surprised at seeing Them there, and asked what they did in that room— His intention seems to have been to go to the Queen— Instantly all endeavor’d to persuade H.M: to return to his own room, observing to Him, that He would catch cold— Colonel Digby then fixing his Eyes stedfastly on H.M^y took Him by both hands, and earnestly pressed his return. The King looked at the Duke of York and exclaimed, “ Oh My Boy ” and soon after he was persuaded to return to his bed—

After this occurrence a regular and a constant watch was kept over Him, and this important charge was with His Majesty’s Equerries (who all came to Windsor as soon as they heard of His Majesty’s alarming Illness) and with his Pages.

Sunday Nov. 9th

Great Agitation and much incoherence in thought and expressions—continued through the two preceding days to

* Gen^l Budé—In The Hanoverian Service & In The Duke of York’s Family.

** Colonel Digby Vice Chamberlain to the Queen.

this— Dwelt on Religion— Heberden, and The Trinity often named the Queen &c &c.—

Had only two hours sleep this night.—

Monday Nov. 10th

At waking the same disturbed rambling continued, and all the late unfavorable Symptoms remain'd the same and unabated— This Night much the same as the last in all respects—

Tuesday Nov. 11th

There was less agitation of thought this day, but the ramblings continued constant— In the Evening H.M. had three hours and half Sleep, but on waking the same incoherence and Wildness appeared, but not of that distressed and puzzled nature as before— Often laughing and joking—

I have remarked, that H.M: has never yet spoke German to any of his Pages, except to those who could speak that language— Hitherto He has known People, but the clearness of this recollection at times has appeared but transitory—

I saw Him this Night sit up and Eat his Posset, and afterwards take his draught— The former He Eat as well, and seemingly as composed as Ever, but the ramblings continued, and were more wild than before, amounting alas to an almost total suspension of reason— No Sleep this Night— The Talking incessant throughout—

Wednesday Nov. 12th

In the Morning constant rambling of thought continued, yet still at times recollecting Persons around Him by Name—H:M: was quiet until 11 oClock this day— after that time to 1 oClock He became more loud, and his Voice more Exerted than I had ever heard it, and He became much agitated, and the subjects changed— He now talked much of Eton College of The Boys rowing &c, but every thing He mentioned was with great hurry and

agitation— At length this Extreme agitation, continued through the two last hours, caused a Violent perspiration— He called to have the Windows opened, and complained of burning— He was prevailed upon to drink some Barley Water, after which He laid down with more calmness for a little time, and sleep seemed likely, but after a short interval the same agitation of thought begun again, and continued—

About 3 oClock this day He became more violent & his talking was hurried & agitated to a great degree, & in consequence He put Himself in a violent perspiration. At this time his pulse rose to 130, but being occasioned more from agitation of Spirits, the Fever soon after became less, but at five o'Clock this Evening, H.M. became exceedingly turbulent, & made strong efforts to get out of bed— His exertions with great agitation of Words, continued about an hour. He afterwards became more composed, but the ramblings remained—

This Night I sat up with H.M^y, during the first part of which the ramblings were great, but afterwards He was for some hours more composed than He had been throughout most part of the day, drinking Barley Water, & taking his draughts without the least objection— On being first asked if He would have some Barley water, & assenting, preparation was made in the next room for getting some, but for a change it was proposed to offer Him some Water Gruel— The Page told Him when He offered it to Him, that He had brought Him some very good gruel— The King who was about to drink it, stopped, & said He prefer'd Barley Water, & asked if He might have some— Being asked if it was his pleasure to have it changed He said yes with much apparent satisfaction, waited for it, & then drank it with much composure, & lay afterwards more quiet—

After five hours after, viz. about three oClock, H.M^y had a violent struggle, jerking very strongly with his Arms & legs, but made no attempt to rise—Three quarters of an hour after this, He became quite recollected, during which time the opportunity was taken of making Him more comfortable, by changing the Sheets & Blankets, & at which He

expressed much satisfaction. Immediately after He was put to bed, & sitting up in it, He talked of being shaved, & proposed to clean his mouth. Water being brought to Him for this purpose He did it as well as could be, washing his Mouth & gargelling his throat as well Ever in his usual habits.

At this time He appeared to Me more collected than I had seen Him since his illness begun— He asked how many days He had been confined to his bed, looked round at his Attendants with attention, & smiled, & nodded to Them frequently— He then laid down & said it was most comfortable to get clean things, & then recollecting Himself He desired He might change his linnen— All this He did as well as could be, & on one of his Pages offering to assist Him in putting on his flannel Waistcoat He said, “No Sir, I can do that for Myself, when I have the use of My own hands.”

On laying down He promised to endeavour to compose Himself, & said He would sleep if He could; & indeed it was now particularly desireable He should have some rest, as He had been without sleep for above twenty-nine Hours.

I have remarked that most commonly, when H:M^y sat up in his bed, that He was more collected & sensible, than in a recumbent posture—& I now watched Him at this particular time, & found, that when He returned to this position He began immediately to wander, & lose Himself, tho’ now His ramblings were more moderate— I communicated my observations to the Attendant Physician, who upon recollection was convinced that the difference existed— During the rest of this Night H.M^y seem’d composing, tho’ he had not got to sound Sleep when I was releived at five o’Clock in the Morning—but He fell into sound Sleep soon after, slept however but one hour, & awoke more composed.

Thursday Nov. 13th

The ramblings continued, but they were more moderate—they afterwards increased— About the middle of the day

H.M^y fell asleep for two hours & awoke composed— About three quarters past one had sleep again & slept sound until the Physicians went into his room about 8 o'Clock in the Evening— He awoke with more composure & recollection than He had obtained Since his illness, & remained for a longer time so. He drank his tea & eat bread & butter with appetite— He knew Everybody & conversed rationally with all— He arranged his Watches & seem'd more cheerful & like Himself, & We all Entertained hopes of much good & amendment, by a Nights sound rest— All at this time wore a more favorable aspect, & countenances became more cheerful around Him—

At eleven o'Clock this Night H.M. slept soundly until two o'Clock in the Morning, but alas at Waking his ramblings returned, & damped our Eager hopes—

Friday Nov. 14th

The ramblings continued— Still H.M^y knew & distinguished his Attendants, but speaking to Them in short incoherent sentences; He seemed to suffer, & complained much of heat & burning—

Throughout this day, tho' constant rambling has been with Him, still there has often been marked congruity & memory— It is very puzzling to form opinions where all is so unsettled, but I must beleive, everything considered, that H.M^y has rather gained ground, & that hopes should not be given up.

Saturday Nov. 15th

His Majesty had during the last Night, altogether about Six hours sleep, & the public report of this day was, that He was rather better; My opinion however was not influenced by this report, & I own I have not observed that amendment, which has been more generally beleived— The Incoherencies of the conversations of this day have been greater on the whole than yesterday, & give no additional hopes of returning reason, however tho' the amendment has not appeared to me so great this day as to some others, I still am

inclined to beleive that amendment continues in some degree. Within the last forty-eight hours there has been much sleep, & less agitated thoughts than there has been, tho' the general turn of thoughts have invariably continued incoherent & rambling, yet the whole system seems altogether more quiet. When there is sleep, where before there was none, & when less restlessness exists, & less agitation of ideas prevails, I think it may be inferr'd, that some amendment has taken place since the Attack begun. Now every Succeeding day comes on with the most anxious Expectations, which it is much to be hoped will not be kept much longer in that lingering suspence which has hitherto attended them.

H.M? yesterday & today has alter'd his Diet a little, & has eat mash'd potatoes with appetite— During the two last days He has been more manageable, & often very composed & collected, but not so for any length of time—

Yesterday one of my Brother Equerries rather inconsiderately went in. The King of course knew Him, as at this time He did all around Him, but this interrupted a little the System of the Attendants which was going on very well, as instantly He now express'd strong preference to his Equerries, & He became anxious for their Attendance, rather than that of his Pages— After this visit H.M: was constantly calling for his Equerries by Name, & sending for Them— Some went, others did not, for it had been a measured arrangement by the Physicians that the Pages were to be in constant attendance in H.M. Apartments, & the Equerries at hand in the next room. The King spoke kindly at this time of all of Them, asked where they were lodged, & desired that none of them should have apartments any where but in the Queen's Lodge— Being informed that they were all under his Roof, He express'd his satisfaction very strongly.

From existing circumstances apprehensions were entertained that new Persons about Him would hurry his thoughts too much, therefore the Physicians thought it

advisable at this time, to let all attendance return to the same system which had been hitherto adopted, & it was now determined to keep H.M.^s Equerries as much from Him as possible at present— Orders were accordingly given to this effect, but as yet it has been impossible to obey them implicitly, as The King's anxious wishes, & these so often repeated to have his Equerries, inclined the Physicians to relax in their Injunction, by indulging his Wishes partially— Accordingly two Equerries have been with H:M: this day for a short time— I have been called by Name, & sent for more than once, but hitherto I have not been introduced—

I fear much just now from flurry of new Subjects, considering as I do, that much is on a very nice balance, at present with our Dear King.

Throughout the whole of this day H.M. has continued talking & incessantly on greater variety of Subjects than before, but does not dwell long on any, tho' He often comes back to the same— On whatever subject He talks He connects circumstances still with tolerable precision, as well as Situations— Mentioning Uxbridge this day, He included Denham & that neighbourhood accurately. He has spoke much this day of his recovery, observing (Poor Man) that He has been very ill, but that He is well now, & says that He has been light headed— Among many directions which have occupied Him, He desired Col^l Goldsworthy today to go to Eton to get the Boys a holiday on account of his recovery— To prepare the Queen for the firing of the guns at 12 o'Clock on the same occasion, & ordering the Dettingen Te Deum * to be sung in Church &c. &c.

In the Evening sensible (without prompting) that He was talking very fast, He altered & spoke in the third Person—"The King did so— The King thinks so" &c. This correction He thus explained, "I speak in the third person, as I am getting into Mr. Burke's Eloquence, saying too much on little things." This led Him to

* Written by Handel, the King's favourite composer, in 1743, to celebrate the Victory of Dettingen.

mention Lord Liverpool, & The Chancellor,* “ I like, said “ H.M., the latter best, tho’ He was in opposition for a “ short time, but then it was only for a moment when He “ was grum, & He can be grum at times to this day ”— Such has been the turn of conversation throughout this day, mixed however at times with many incoherencies.

I think I forsee from late occurrences, that H:M: will e’er long give more trouble to his Attendants than hitherto— Already He talks of the many plans He has in view, when He gets up, & which event is to take place tomorrow, when He says He shall put on his Boots & dress Himself.

In the course of this day H.M. has seen The Duke of York whom He received without that Agitation which had been apprehended, & after a short Interview He released Him with composure—

Sunday Nov. 16th

During the last Night H.M. has had sleep at Intervals from ten o’Clock until near three— The Intervals were very short as He generally woke every half hour. From half after three o’Clock to five, a sound Sleep succeeded. Altho’ during this Night there has been what may be deem’d a sufficient portion of Sleep, yet it has not effected what has been much wished & expected— Wild incoherencies have increased rather than diminished since yesterday, & the hopes of this day have become less flattering— H.M. from having somewhat recover’d bodily Strength, beleives Himself to be almost well, & in consequence now tries to command, & struggles hard for Obedience— The Physicians have resisted his schemes with the greatest temper, but the points are not yet given up—

A warm bath having been order’d H.M. proposed terms if He took it, but his consent was at last obtained by Management— The Subject of his Equerries has again been recollected— He has been told that his health requires

* Lord Thurlow was Lord Chancellor from 1778 till 1792, except during April to December in 1783, when the Fox and North coalition was in office.

quiet, & therefore that they must not see Him at present, & that it was hoped that if He called for any particular Person or for any particular thing, that He would not be angry if He was not obey'd, as that would be done by the Physicians orders from an Attention to his Health & which they owed to God, to Himself, & to the whole World— Upon this without assenting He was at first silent, & then He told the Physician who had thus addressed Him, “ That He should follow His prescription when He stood in need of it, but desired He would retire a little at present, as He must see He was nervous,” & then turning to another He artfully said “ You shall talk to Me, for our poor Friend there (meaning the one who had last spoke to Him) is too nervous at present ”—

At one o’Clock H.M took a warm Bath for fifteen Minutes— Its Temperature 95° — He was then put to bed— Afterwards at times He has been read to— He has frequently enquired who sat up, & which Set was to relieve, making occasionally alterations as He liked or disliked particular Attendants, & which has varied from the casual controul which Each may have been obliged to adopt during their Watch— In these Arrangements H.M: has talked much of Me— He has ordered how I shall be dressed, & where stationed in My next Watch— I am order’d to be in the room adjoining his own Apartment, to be dressed in a plain Coat, & to be very neat— He has asked for the Master Key of the Queen’s Lodge, & He battles hard, & very often, to prevail in having it deliver’d to Him— This had been previously obviated by its having been deliver’d into The Duke of York’s hands, & Sealed with his own Seal in our presence—

Monday Nov. 17th

About six hours sleep have been obtained at intervals during the last Night, but during this day the same inconsistent conversations have continued— H.M: bathed again this day— He fell asleep at 10 o’Clock this Night, but awoke again at $\frac{1}{2}$ after 11— Afterwards He lay composed &

Nov 18th 1788.

Tuesday Evening ten o'clock
put on Bootkins

Wed. Evening at 7. repeated
over the stockings but without shoes;
at 9. o'clock they were
extirpated by the
advice of Dr. Warren, after the
king forbade his ducks & says
to attend ~~the~~ present confinement

J. E.

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This Memorandum is wrote by
His Majesty

MEMORANDUM WRITTEN BY GEORGE III IN 1788

(The footnote is in the diarist's handwriting)

fell asleep again at one, & slept four hours. At waking the same inconsistent conversations continued as before, but his manner was placid & composed, tho' in respect of any amendment in the material System, sorry am I to own, that I perceive none for some days past.—

This Night Sir Lucas Pepys* arrived—

Tuesday Nov. 18th

Sir Lucas Pepys was introduced to H.M: this Morning, & by a well managed arrangement He was not flurried by this Visit— During the whole day the conversation has been rapid & unceasing—but there was a degree of consistency in the variety of subjects which became the topics, only one subject was often succeeded by another, before the one begun was finished. Attempts were made to check this continual fatigue of conversation by reading, but this seldom answer'd above a few minutes, & not often.

In the Evening by Sir Lucas Pepys's direction Carded Wool & Bootikins of Woolen Yarn were applied to H.M:^s feet— Towards Night He became more restless & agitated than He had been for some time past & his pulse now rose to 100.— This seem'd to have been occasioned chiefly from the fatigue of an unceasing conversation of many hours, & his Voice now was every now & then interrupted by a catch in his throat, which hitherto has not been usual— H.M:^s situation at this time is very discouraging & this Afflicting Illness has probably been in a great degree brought on by too great Abstinence, & unequal to support the Excess of those continual fatigues of body as well as Mind, which for a period of many years He has gone through.

Wednesday Nov. 19th

The last Night afforded but two hours sleep, to recruit disturbed & much exhausted Nature, & during the intermediate hours the same rapid & incessant talking continued— The consequent fatigue will not be wondered at, when it is

* Physician in ordinary to the King. He attended two days a week during His Majesty's illness.

stated, that previous to this sleep H.M^y had talked for nineteen hours without scarce any Intermission This day He has been much agitated & the conversation has not abated or improved.

It was thought adviseable that He should get up this day, & expedient likewise to make such arrangements as might be useful in keeping Him more quiet than usual— In consequence His Majesty's Equerries received written directions from the Physicians of the proposed regulations— It was by these directed that when H.M^y got up there should constantly be Two of his Pages with Him in his Apartment & two others to be in constant waiting in the next room— An Equerry to be constantly in the third Room to see that all was well & properly regulated, & to receive any Messages from The Queen— Nobody was allowed to go into the Kings room except his Pages— The Rev^d Mr. Majendie, & Mr. Best Secretary to the Hanoverian Minister, & if called & insisted on Colonel Goldsworthy might be introduced, but to be excused if possible— If H.M^y asked for others, the Pages had orders to say firmly, but with becoming Attention, that it was the Physicians positive orders that such & such people & things did not come & were not brought—

These Arrangements being made the King got up, & came into the next room— He was ill pleased that the Pages should remain in it while He was there— He battled this long & strenuously, but necessity & prudence carried the point against his Wishes— He became out of humour at the disappointment— He would not be shaved— He would not eat his dinner, this at last was overcome tho' He stood out against being shaved— This operation He had all along much opposed, unless He might be permitted to perform it Himself— At length on this occasion He consented after much difficulty, but when half shaved He refused to let the other half be finished, unless certain indulgencies were granted— After continueing some time half shaved (a singular appearance as He had not been shaved for upwards of a fortnight) He at length gave up the point—

Thursday Nov. 20th

The last Night has been altogether the best, which H.M.^y has Experienced since his Illness begun— He had seven hours & a half good Sleep, & of which five hours & a half was without any interruption. He awoke composed & much refreshed—

His Physicians deemed it proper that the Attendance of those about Him should be continued with stricter regulation than before, & this day they signed their Order & of which the following is a Copy—

Order

“ November 20th, 1788.”

*“ His Majesty is to be attended by only one Equerry today—
“ He has Himself desired that Mr. Greville may be the Person—
“ It is desired that two Pages may constantly be in the room
“ with His Majesty, except when his Equerry is present, at
“ which time one Page is sufficient— It is desired that two
“ or more Pages may attend constantly in the room, next to
“ His Majesty’s—*

*“ These directions do not exclude Col^l Goldsworthy Mr.
“ Majendie, Mr. Best, or any of the Medical Gentl who sitt
“ up with His Majesty—*

*“ If His Majesty requires to see any other Person the Atten-
“ dant on His Majesty is desired to say Either, that the Person
“ is not to be found, or that the Physicians have directed that
“ His Majesty should not see that Person today.*

Signed “ R. Warren—*

“ L. Pepys—†

“ T. R. Reynolds.” ‡

“ To The Equerry, in Attendance on His Majesty ”

* Dr. Warren had been called in hurriedly during the night of Nov. 5th to assist Dr. Heberden and Sir George Baker, the latter being unwell himself.

† Sir Lucas Pepys, called in Nov. 19th.

‡ Dr. Reynolds, called in some days previously, was made physician in ordinary to H.M. in 1806, on the death of Dr Gisborne.

His Majesty having been pleased to nominate Me Himself, for the first attendance on Him according to the above Order, I accordingly received My directions from The Physicians to go into H:M^ys Apartment Until this day I had not attended in it— When I came in, I found H.M: in bed— On seeing Me He eagerly expressed his satisfaction at my coming, & ordered Me to take a Chair to his Bed side, & to sitt down in it by Him— I did so— He then took Me by the Hand, & told Me, He had long wished to see Me, & that I had been the only one of his Equerries who had been kept back from Him— He then in a moderate & collected conversation entered a little on His Illness, & his present amendment, & then added, that from this day He would have Me & Col^l Digby, & We should releive each other— He then soon after dismissed Me, ordering Me to go & get My breakfast, & then to take My usual ride, & appointing Me to come to Him again at two o'Clock— All this I did, & at 2 o'Clock I waited on H.M^y again, & staid with Him during his dinner, & after that until 5 o'Clock—

During all this time his conversation was more collected than usual, & it was delivered with moderation

I thought Myself well warranted in making a very favorable report of My Interview with H.M^y during this day to His Physicians, & I did so—declaring to them My opinion, that during the whole of his Illness, I had not yet seen appearances in Him so favorable, both in manner & in conversation. He was sensible of having been very much out of Order, & that still He stood in need of Attention & care— Sometimes He doubted his own Accuracy in what He was saying, & would ask Me if such & such things had been so, as said He “ I have certainly been very much out “of Order ”— He added that his recollections had been very imperfect & confused until last Sunday (Nov^r 16th) when all had become more arrangd day after day from that period— He now accounted for his leaving Himself half shaved by a calm statement— He told Me it had been his constant practice during 18 Years to shave Himself; That his Illness had made Him nervous & He confessed He had

felt uneasy at the appearance of the intended operation— That after it had begun, when He saw the Razor brandished to continue the Shaving on the other side of his face He was agitated, & could not bear to have it finished at that time, but said that the next day it should be done— During this My Attendance H.M. talked to Me on various subjects— He complained of the light of the Windows still dazling his Eyes, as his Confinement had been long & The Room kept darken'd— At one time He desired I would look across the Garden to the Lower Lodge to see if I could observe any of his Children at the Windows, expressing at the same time very great anxiety to see Them & desired an Attendant might be sent to Them to request that they would shew Themselves before the Lower Lodge only for a few minutes—

It was truly painful that it should have been thought necessary & Expedient, to parry this affectionate parental Wish, but acquiescence to it, rested not with Me. Happily the Wish was not insisted on, to H.M.'s distress, & all was got over without flurry & vexation.

At 5 o'Clock H.M. dismissed me to my own dinner desiring Me to return to Him at 7, adding that I should then drink Tea with Him, & He gave his Orders accordingly.

In the Evening I returned at the appointed time & remained with H.M.^y until 11 o'Clock— With concern I found Him more hurried in his conversation than He had been throughout the day, neither was He now so collected as He had been in the Morning, as appeared by his mentioning some subjects to Me, which had He been well, He probably would have concealed—

The controul which the Physicians were obliged to maintain agitated Him— This, & returning quickness of conversation, now raised his pulse to above 100.

How distressing are these transitions, & how discouraging.

Friday Nov. 21st

The last Night as might be expected was not a very good one— It passed with about 4 hours sleep, tho' not above an

hour & a half of this was uninterrupted— When H.M. got up He was certainly more collected & more reasonable in his conversation than He was, when He went to bed— Afterwards appearances in his manner & conversation improved and this amendment continued throughout this day—

I was with H.M. from 7 o'Clock until 11 o'Clock at night, & I had reason to believe that a real amendment had taken place, & that prospects had in truth become more flattering— His conversations were more continued to their subjects, & less interrupted than before— He now waited for Answers, & replied with coolness & precision.

This Morning H.M. saw the Duke of York— Sir Lucas Pepys was not in favor, & the intended support of H.R.H. proved ineffectual— The King complained to Me, that this Physician had been forced upon Him, & He then dwelt on the treatment He had received from the Doctors, with much sensibility—

I took this occasion to hint to H.M. that nothing was worse for Him just now than Agitation, & that an unremitting object of His Physicians was, by every means in their power to keep Him quiet, as a measure absolutely necessary to his recovery; & that the trifles He complained as having been withheld from Him, & the occasional restraints He had experienced, had been measures which had been adopted solely to this point, & that they would all cease in a very short time.

H.M. listen'd to Me with Attention, & said He knew that quiet was essential, & He promised to endeavour to be so. He has been composed during the Evening, & He detained me until He retired to his Bed—at 11 o'Clock— At 12 o'Clock I returned, & begun My Nights Watch— H.M. fell asleep almost as soon as He lay down, & slept 'till 3 o'Clock. Soon after He fell into good sleep until the Morning—

During the course of this day H.M. mention'd a Wish & which required management to get rid of— He requested that Colonel Digby might sleep in his Apartment instead of

a Page, or one of the Attendant Surgeons— On recollection He said, that as Col! Digby Was not well He would not desire it, but turning to Doctor Reynolds & Sir George Baker then in the room with Me, He asked them if they had any objection to My sleeping in his room. They did not give an immediate answer, but looked at each other.

Luckily H.M.^ys attention was taken off at this moment on which I got round to D^r Reynolds, & beg'd He would parry this request. Soon after, these two Gentlemen went away, without this proposition having been further pressed— The Duke of York now came into the King's Apartment & while He conversed with his Son in German I got close to D^r Warren in the further part of the room, & in a whisper told Him what had been going forward, & stated the undecided manner in which the request had been left, adding, that tho' I was most willing to undergo any fatigue, or undertake any duty which might in any way assist H.M.^y or console Him in His present distressing confinement yet that I was anxious that H.M.^ys proposition might not be acceded to, unless it was thought necessary— D^r Warren took an opportunity before He left the Apartment to tell H.M.^y that He rather wished He would not press to have Col! Digby or Myself to sleep in his Apartment, & that He should rather that He kept it clear for Himself, with his Pages in the next room & at hand there in case He should want anything— The King upon this orderd a Couch which had been already prepared for Us to be taken out of his Room.

Saturday Nov. 22^d

On making My usual Enquiries this morning I was much surprised, & chagrined to receive of H.M.^y so different [a report] after so good an Evening & a quiet Night. I knew a report had been sent to Mr. Pitt stating that H.M.^y had passed a quiet Night, but that He was entirely deranged, tho' in a good humoured quiet way. I could scarce beleive the correctness of this report when I saw it, but on being sent

for by H.M^y that Morning, I accorded in the opinion of the Physicians & had no doubt in thinking that all was now very wrong indeed— Among other marked indications of derangement was the continued censure He was heaping on Colonel Goldsworthy, who at this time was evidently greatly out of favor— He gave me various hurried orders, & made Me write out some for Co^l Goldsworthy respecting Mr. Montague (his Yeoman Rider) removing with his Furniture to Town & taking charge of the Riding House. I was to order his Post chaise Horses up to Town— I received directions to write to D^r Warren who He supposed was in Town to wait upon Lord Sydney, & to bring down with Him an Attested Warrant for his Baronetage.

To other Persons in the Room He gave various orders, & was Himself very restless & loquacious—

H.M: kept Me with Him during His Dinner, when He eat four Eggs with Spinage, & finished with some Apple Pye. After his dinner He drank his Coffee, & then dismissed Me to My dinner, ordering Me to return & drink Tea with Him.

In the Evening I returned at 7 o'Clock—& after Tea H:M^y orderd Me to read to Him— I accordingly read a few pages of the Duchess of Kingston's trial— Mr. Hawkins, one of the Attendant Surgeon was in the room— In the latter part of this Evening The King became more moderate, more collected & more cautious in his conversation than He had been during the day. Late in the Evening Gen^l Budé came into the King's Apartment, where He remained with Me, until H:M: got to bed about 12 o'Clock. In the course of this Conversation with the General He related to Him some phantoms of his delusion during his delirium— Said He had thought there had been a deluge— That He had seen Hanover through Herschells Telescope— That He had thought Himself inspired &c. &c.

Before H.M^y retired to rest this Evening He was in good spirits & jocose— This Evening He went through the Prayers with M^r Majendie very well.

Sunday Nov. 23^d

During last Night H.M^y had several hours sleep, tho' altogether He passed a disturbed Night—

He got out of bed more than once during the Night & when in bed, & asleep, still He appeared agitated

He rose at 7 o'Clock this Morning, in consequence of a plan & of which He had informed Gen^l Budé & Myself to see The Princesses walking in the Garden, as He had understood that they took their Walks before He got up in the Morning— He had not the opportunity He had hoped for of seeing his daughters, but He saw his Horses at Exercise in the Home Park, & with which He was delighted.

About 10 o'Clock I attended H.M.^{ys} summons to his apartment— I found Him much deranged & very loquacious, very hurrying in Conversation & giving all a variety of Orders— Poor Goldsworthy still the Object of his animadversion, & Myself the favorite— H.M.^y questions me very closely, if I had obey'd his commands of last Night with respect to Col^l Goldsworthy & Dr. Warren. I was ordered to have two particular Colts caught up & shod, & these to be sent to London— He then turned to Ernest, one of his Pages, & gave Him in a breath a profusion of Orders— Ernest answered that He could not execute Them, as The Physicians would not permit Him— On which turning to Me He said “Well then My Friend Greville shall do them for Me, for He is not under the controul of the Doctors.” He now gave Me directions to transmit to M^r Tunstall at Kew—told Me to order a Chaise from Martin's the Castle at Windsor for his Page, as the Doctors would not let the Page have one—Order'd Me to arrange the Richmond Account for Chaises for Mr Dundas, & to send it up to the Office in the King's Mews for payment— In short at this time what with the favor which is extended to Me, & also from the power I am supposed to hold, independent of the controul of the Doctors, I have enough to do from an unceasing string of Orders— I was

releived for a short time by H.M. sending me out to take My ride, with directions to return to Him. After I had finished my ride I was sent for again by The King— I found Him much the same, & every now & then talking much unlike Himself, I mean indecently, which never was his practice while in possession of his reason— In his undisturbed Moments none would have revolted more at such expressions than He would, but now He was not Himself—

He detained Me during his Dinner & after He had drank his Coffee I was sent to dine Myself— After his Coffee H.M. had a short Nap ; He awoke agitated & cross— Talked with great rapidity, incoherently & on strange subjects, & sorry was I to hear, these were not free from Indecencies for I did not go again this Evening into his Apartment.

Col^l Digby was sent for this Evening, but he too, & for the first time was a little in disgrace with H.M?— In short this day & more particularly this Evening, seem to have been among his worst periods—

This day He gave an Order to General Grenville for £200 drawn upon M^r Matthias in Scotland Yard to pay his Workmen at Kew— He was much perplex'd with this commission— The Account Books having been at this time kept away from His Majesty He made a calculation out of his own head in the presence of Gen^l Grenville & D^r Majendie & in consequence gave the above mentioned order for £200, as sufficient for the purposes required—

Monday Nov^r 24th

The last Night has proved a restless one, & with but very little sleep.

I was sent for this Morning at Ten o'Clock & staid with H.M? until One— I found Him much agitated— Talking very fast on variety of subjects, incoherently, & imprudently. He was giving great variety of Commissions, & He seem'd particularly anxious to have a Drawer in a Table He had sent for, broke open— He said He was anxious to have this done as He had papers there from M^r Pitt which He was desirous of having— I received from Him also various

other Commissions, but these were so rapidly given, that the one put out the other almost immediately from my recollection, so little chain or connection was there to impress Them on My memory. At last I was sent to find Gray (The resident Upholsterer) to sett one of the Pullies of the Windows right— In one of the outer Apartments I found the Duke of York walking about & D^r Warren sitting at the Table. On my coming in The Duke asked me how the King was— I answer'd that things were going on butt badly, & that I had been dispatched on a Commission— On being asked what it was, I mentioned the particulars to H.R.H: who desired Me on My return to say, that Gray was sent to Town. I asked permission instead of that to say, that the Physicians had directed that Gray should not attend at present— This was agreed to—

H.R.H: & D^r Warren then asked Me some questions respecting H.M.^s behaviour that Morning. I said that He had been in the room adjoining his Sitting Room & that He had been talking a good deal with his Pages. The Duke of York thought this should not be, & D^r Warren being entirely of the same Opinion, The latter wrote an Order viz that The Physicians Directed that H.M.^y should not go beyond his two rooms this day, & that He should have with Him but one Equerry— The Duke saw this Order, & D^r Warren desired Me in his presence to read that Order to His Majesty.

When I return'd to The Kings Apartment, I acquainted H.M. before Gieswell one of his Pages, that I had been for Gray, but that the Physicians had directed that He should not attend that day, & that I had received at the same time another Order from H.M.^{ys} Physicians which I then held in My hand & would with H:M^s permission read to Him— I then read it to Him, which having done the King said " Give Me that Order I will keep it Myself " & then asked Me who had wrote it— I told Him the writing I did not know, but the Order came from the Physicians— He immediately suspected Doctor Warren, & his conjectures were soon after confirmed by his shewing the Order to M^r

Battiscombe H.M.^s Apothecary, & asking if it was not in D^r Warrens handwriting— M. Battiscombe without hesitation answer'd that it was—

After the King had received this order, He turned to Me & said as He was to have but one Equerry, I should be his Prisoner for that day, as He would not part with Me. He ordered that I should dine at 3 o'Clock—made out a Bill of fare Himself & order'd Me to take a copy from his, & to sign it with My own Name.

These Gleams of constant kindness which floated towards Me from his troubled Mind, I received with melancholy gratitude—

Painful indeed are now the passing hours, & My head becomes Weary, from the continual fidget around Me, which unceasing conversations, & constant hurry of contrivances gives rise to—

Col^l Gwyn for whom H.M.^y had called this morning, coming in, I took that opportunity of release, & took a refreshing ride— At My return I found that Sir George Baker did not approve of the Order which limited H.M.^y to the daily attendance of one Equerry, which He said had done mischief by the Agitation it had occasioned, & He Enquired of Me particulars These I related to Him precisely as they had occurred, & made known to Him by whom, & before whom the Order had been settled.

On the statement He remarked that as it had been issued He should not attempt to recall it, but confessed He did not See that there had been any necessity for it— Sir George Baker then asked my Opinion if I thought the King was worse with two Equerries than with One; I replied I thought not, for whether one or more had been present, of late H.M.^s conversations had been as rapid & as constant as possible, therefore it was immaterial as to number, to the point of Quiet—

At three o'Clock this day H.M.^y sent for Colonel Goldsworthy— On his arrival He order'd Me to dress & dine. During the Evening He continued as disturbed as in the Morning— He was perplexed, contriving, agitated, &

loquacious. A principal Object He seemed to have in view throughout this day was the recovery of his Keys & to get at his Drawers— He wrote a letter for this purpose to The Duke of York, M^r Majendie & Sir George Baker saw this letter— It was one of a Person certainly not in the full possession of reason. Col^l Goldsworthy was sent with it to The Duke of York & received directions at the same time to bring back the Keys. The request was submitted to The Physicians & Col^l Goldsworthy was sent by Them to The King to acquaint Him that they did not think it right at present to comply with it— The King received this Message, but certainly not with satisfaction— Sir George Baker & D^r Warren in consequence were sent in to speak to Him. On seeing Them H.M. was angry & agitated, on which Col^l Goldsworthy looking out of his Apartment, called for Two Equerries to Come in—Col^l Manners & Myself immediately went in— We found The King violently agitated, & very Angry, but more particularly with D^r Warren— Shortly after some other Gentlemen in Attendance & Pages came into the room— D^r Warren spoke to The King & endeavor'd to pacify Him— He requested at the same time that He might feel his Pulse— This the King refused & then getting up briskly He desired D^r Warren to leave the room, telling Him He had sent Him a harsh order that day, & which Sir George Baker had got altered— D^r Warren still tried to pacify H.M.^y upon which the King advanced up to Him & pushed Him— Colonel Manners & Myself being at this time close behind D^r Warren, interfered, & stopped His Majesty, who on this, & seeing others coming up, He retired from D^r Warren pale with Anger, & foaming with rage. The King now desired D^r Warren to go for the present & to leave Sir George Baker with Him promising to see D^r Warren at another time— This was complied with— & thus has this Turmoil ended tho' there are those who have queried whether future trouble may not arise from this concession at such a moment, when the Physicians should have Established their Authority—

The King retired to his Bed Chamber followed by Sir George Baker & Two of His Pages, where He continued long with Them—& all from want of firmness and a proper & decided system, returned directly into the same agitated & perplex'd train of commands, which had been so constant throughout this day— The King certainly did not feel Himself got the better of in the late struggle, & therefore He still aimed at Authority, which He seem'd conscious was not lost, tho' it had been impeded—

Towards 10 o'Clock at Night Sir George Baker returned again to The King's Apartment, but his presence rather increased the difficulties of all around, as He was patient & undecided— Indeed the general conduct of the Physicians has not been so decided or firm as the occasion of their Attendance has required— They appear to shrink from responsibility & to this time they have not Established their Authority tho' pressed by Every Attendant. The consequence has been, that too much has been left by indecision, to the chance of proper & correct conduct of those who from time to time have happend to be near The Kings Person, when any Exertions have been called for.

I am clearly of opinion that if His Majesty's Physicians would arrange & make known proper & decided regulations His Majesty would submit to Them & sure I am that those around his Person, knowing the ground on which they were to act, would maintain those regulations— But at present the Task becomes difficult in more points than one, from the intricacies of various controuls & various Interferences—

It becomes the Physicians to regulate Themselves by their Experience as Medical Men, & brought forward under proper Authorities—their decisions should be respected— From these thus appointed We should have plain and positive directions in an anxious & difficult charge We ought not to be Embarrassed by fluctuating decisions nor puzzled with a multitude of directions from other Quarters—

Our Situation as Attendants on His Majestys Person, struggling under the Severest Affliction, is a most anxious & most responsible one— All of Us are most desirous to

do our best for the good & comfort of our Dear King, but We must be plainly & properly directed in our course.

About 10 o'Clock this Night H.M^y prepare'd for bed, but without the prospect of a good Night from the Extreme Agitation He has Experienced in this day— This Night an Order signed by D^r Warren & Sir George Baker was given to the Equerry of the Watch, but why or wherefore I know not. Its purport was “that it was desired by The Physicians that the Equerry who sits up with His Majesty “should not go into The King's room, unless sent for by “one of the Pages.”

The King this day saw the Princesses from his Windows & was much pleased at seeing Them—

Tuesday Nov. 25th

What with fatigue & opiates H:M^y obtained several hours sleep this Night, but in the Morning the same perplexity of Mind & the same incoherence in his conversation continued— He lay in bed longer than usual & while He was dressing He sent for Me, & He was eager in giving Me a great variety of commissions, & I found Him doing the same to Colonel Gwyn who was in the room when I came in— He order'd Me as yesterday to dine at 3 o'Clock but did not make out any bill of fare as He had done the preceding day for Me. Then directing Me to be with Him again at 4 o'Clock He sent Me out to ride— All this could not be accomplished, as a change took this in the Evening. The Chancellor & M^r Pitt came this Morning & had long conferences with H.M^s Physicians, & the result has been the adoption of a New System, & which was immediately acted upon by the Prince of Wales's command

Windsor Castle Nov. 25th 1788.

Copy of an Order—by The P. of W. The D. of York & Physicians

“It is the Opinion of His Majestys Physicians that H.M^y
“should have only two Persons with him—that these two
“Persons should stay with His Majesty, for two hours & then

“ *be releived by two others— That these two Persons should*
 “ *inform H.M^y that they are order’d by his Physicians, to*
 “ *remain in the Room—to admit no other Person—or go with*
 “ *any Message. Other Attendants must always be in the Room*
 “ *adjoining to His Majestys Apartment, but are not to go in,*
 “ *unless called for by the Attendants within— It is directed*
 “ *by H.M^{ys} Physicians, that the Attendants should take partic-*
 “ *ular care, that His Majesty does not go out of his Bed-*
 “ *chamber and room adjoining— If H.M. calls for the Clergy-*
 “ *man to read prayers He may be admitted— Whilst H:M^y*
 “ *is in Bed at Night, He must have 3 Attendants two of which*
 “ *must always be in his Bed Room.*

Signed

“ *R. Warren. George Baker. Sign’d George. P—*
 “ *L. Pepys. T. R. Reynolds ” Frederic.—”*

His Majesty on being made acquainted with it was very angry, said it was hard—& gave one of his Pages a smart slap on the face, a violence by no means usual to his natural dispositions, & which indeed throughout this illness in repeated Instances He had maintained. He had however taken some Exception to the Page He now struck, previous to this day; & at this time He did not like He should be in his room, & flurried at the moment by the Order which had controuled Him, He struck Him—

The influence of his innate good Nature, was not long absent from Him— As He was not permitted to have his Equerries with Him He put Himself to bed soon after— He then called for the same Page, took Him by the hand, and asked his Pardon twenty times.

I own I have hopes this order, will produce good Effects, & if it does in any degree check the strain of increasing loquacity, the good obtained will not be small. I rejoice to think that it has not made H.M^y unhappy, tho’ with much sensibility at first, He said “it was hard” With respect to Us, it has brought with it a more decided System & has Established a controul, which in the End I trust will prove

tenderness— All Orders which now reach Us are Explicit, & these are regularly signed by proper Authorities— A regular Roster has also been made out, & signed by the Prince of Wales for the Pages duty, & more hands are brought forward to make their future duties Easier—

The King went this Night to bed about 7 o'Clock, fell asleep soon after & waked at abt 11, when He insisted on getting up to have his head & feet fomented, & which for some Nights past He had done, but which his precipitate retreat to his bed this Evening had occasioned Him to omit. As He seem'd very desirous to be indulged in this fancy He was so, & afterwards returned to bed where at intervals He slept some hours, but between them He talked incessantly & incoherently, but in good humour & high spirits, & at times laughed a good deal—

Wednesday Nov. 26th

I left Windsor this Morning being called to Town on business. I returned to The Queens Lodge on Friday Nov. 28th. On Thursday Nov. 27 Doctor Addington arrived at The Queens Lodge, introduced there on the recommendation of the Chatham Family * His practice in the Country chiefly & near Reading, had as it has been said, successfully directed, & particularly to Maladies of the Mind— He is now Old & indeed nearly superannuated. He made a sad blunder at his first Interview with H.M: by inconsiderately telling Him there would be no impropriety in his seeing the Queen. This slip occasioned much confusion, as The King immediately begun to prepare His room for Her reception.

Friday Nov. 28th

On My return to the Queen's Lodge this day I learnt

* Dr. Anthony Addington, M.D., was father of Henry Addington, the first Viscount Sidmouth, Prime Minister & Speaker of the House of Commons. He married a Miss Hibey, whose family were friendly with the Pitts. It was owing to this friendship that Henry turned his attention to politics and rose to be Prime Minister in 1801.

With concern that no favorable Alteration had taken place in his Majesty's health, during My Absence, & that his disorder remained without abatement—& in some Instances more violence had appeared— Yesterday (Thursday) all the Cabinet had met at the Queen's Lodge, Lord Camden the President of the Council excepted, and as We had heard, it was at this time decided in Council that His Majesty should if possible be removed to Kew. This Evening H.M^y became turbulent, & one of his Pages came out of his Apartment to make the circumstance known to the Physicians who were at this time in conclave. On receiving this report from the Page D^r Warren D^r Reynolds & Sir Lucas Pepys came to our room, & Doctor Warren desired that D^r Reynolds & Myself would go in to H:M: to pacify & set matters to rights—

My going was contrary to the late express orders signed by the Physicians, & by The Prince of Wales, & perhaps in strict correctness I ought to have declined, but as I had the sanction of The Physicians, I thought I ought not to refuse, where it was their opinion that I might be useful on a particular occasion—

We found His Majesty very much agitated & He complained of the rough treatment He had received from his Pages, who in fact had only been obliged in the course of their painful duty to hold Him in his bed, & overpower his turbulence.

The King on My approach was very glad to see Me & said that I had kindly broke in to protect Him, & directly desired that D^r Reynolds might go, & that I should stay with Him— I sat down by his bed side, & He told Me I should remain with Him within the Curtains all Night— Among many recited greivances I found that his resentment was principally Excited agst one of his Pages (Stillingfleet) and agst Whom He had Entertained aversion some time It happend to be now his turn of duty, & therefore He was at this time in the Apartment— The King insisted He should be removed, He was told that his request could not be granted as He was only taking his regular turn of duty.

Stillingfleet was at this time standing at the foot of H.M^ys Bed, which when I perceived, I made Him a sign to retire out of sight behind the Curtain— He did so & H.M^y was pacified— His Supper a little rice & Milk was now brought to Him— I pressed Him to Eat it, but He talked on & deferred until it had become nearly cold— He desired it might be warmed & sent Me on this Errand, as He would not permit his Page to touch it. I was obliged to avail Myself of this opportunity of releasing Myself as The Physicians had already sent for Me to leave his Apartment.

As soon as I came from The King, the Prince of Wales sent for Me & intimated to Me, that it was a measure now fixed to try to remove H.M^y to Kew the next day, & that He had appointed General Harcourt, Colonel Goldsworthy & Myself to take the charge of Him on the road— His Royal Highness was at the same time pleased to give Me full directions how we were to Act.

The Queen was to remove to Kew before H.M^y Whose removal was not intended before five o'Clock in order to prevent his being seen by any croud— This & Every preparatory caution was consider'd & Every chance of possible Exposure of any kind, was carefully obviated in the general Arrangements.

Saturday Nov. 29th

All preparations for H.M^s removal being made The intentions were gradually & cautiously mentioned to Him— but the King most stoutly objected to Every hint for his removal, & He would not get up.

It was next decided that M^r Pitt should give Him the information that the Queen was gone, as it was thought He might distrust that intelligence from most quarters. Accordingly M^r Pitt went in, & telling the King that it was a fine day, asked Him if He would not get up & sett out to Kew where the Queen had just gone— The King objected, & said that the Queen had gone without leave, & that She should return to supplicate his pardon. Other inducements were contrived, but H.M^y objected to Every

attempted persuasion for his removal; He at times however offer'd to make terms— At one time He would go in his own chaise only, which He at this time well knew was gone with the Queen to Kew. At another time He would only go with the Princess Royal, and declared He would by no means consent to go with Gen^l Harcourt & His Equerries—

M^r Pitt baffled in his Endeavors left his Apartment & The King continued in bed— The day was advancing, being now about one o'Clock— The Prince of Wales, with the advice of the Physicians then desired that General Harcourt & Myself should go to The King, & tell Him that his Carriage was ready, & that it waited for Him. We went in & made this communication, but We found H.M^y by no means disposed to listen to Us. He made the General & Myself sitt down by his Bedside, & He talked on various Subjects with hurry & agitation. We urged Him to get up & prepare Himself to go to Kew, on which He became very angry & hastily closed the Bed Curtains, & hid Himself from Us.

He afterwards shewed Us some Papers He had been writing— One was a Letter to The Duke of Montague the Master of the Horse— Another contained an Order which He wished Us to send to Colonel Balfour of The Welsh Fuzileers, now on the Windsor duty— The Anxiety with which H.M: pressed Us to forward this Letter induced Me to suspect that its purpose was, that He should be assisted by a Military force.

H.M^y had next recourse to gentle persuasions. He told Gen^l Harcourt that He knew He was his Friend, as well as Myself & He added He was sure He would protect his King—

The Physicians finding that no impressions were made, & that our long negotiation was likely to prove ineffectual, sent in a letter from M^r Pitt to His Majesty, the purport of which was, that his Physicians having deemed a change of Air necessary for his health had urged it most strongly, & that He hoped H.M^y would kindly comply with a

request thus urged & which He now sent Him from Them. The King on reading this Letter Attempted to answer it, but being much agitated, He left off at the first line. General Harcourt & Myself now renewed our Earnest Entreaties; He again became Angry & drawing his Curtains together with great force He again hid Himself from Us—

Nothing having in the least to this time, diminished the difficulties H.M: opposed to every hint for his removal, It was now thought necessary by the Physicians to bring the question to a point, & not to retard it by any further delay.

On this decision the Four Physicians Enter'd the Kings room— On seeing Them his agitation increased, & perceiving Dr Warren He instantly desired He would get out of the Room & on his not retiring He jumped out of bed to go to Him. I laid hold of H.M.^{ys} Arm, & with some of the Attendant Pages stopped Him— On this He returned to his bed— The Physicians now with Earnestness & calm urged Him to get up & dress Himself, as his Carriage was waiting for Him to carry Him to Kew— The King however persisted in obstinate refusal, & He was entreated to no purpose.

On this a firmer Tone was assumed & He was plainly told, that He must go, or that other means must be resorted to.—— Still he answer'd that He would not go, and asked if they meant to force Him. He was told if He continued his refusal longer, He would be forced. After a short pause He asked if General Harcourt would go with Him— It was replied that He would go with pleasure— & on his asking Me if I would go with Him, I promised Him I would most willingly, & I added, that Col! Goldsworthy would be ready to attend Him likewise.

On this He said He would get up if the Physicians would go away— They retired, & We press'd Him to dress— He linger'd & on some pretence or other delay'd— We then told Him that He must not forget that He had given his promise to his Physicians to get up, if they retired—that in consequence they had retired, & We were confident He

would on his part make good his promise to Them, otherwise that they would all certainly return— On this intimation H.M.^y began to dress Himself, but soon again laid down again on His bed— Co! Manners on this was sent in, & He reminded Him, that on the Physicians retiring He had promised to be ready soon, that many minutes were already gone, & then taking out his Watch & holding it up He added, that unless H.M. finished his Dressing soon, they certainly would return to know the cause of the delay. Finding now that He was press'd on all sides & that no further delays would be permitted, He jumped out of bed, said He would finish his Dressing & that He would soon be ready to go— H.M. kept his word— He was soon ready—& after He was dressed He Eat some bread & butter & drank a Glass of Water. He then called for Sir George Baker to whom He said that He had sent to converse with Him not as a Physician but as a Friend— As short conversations at this time were best We all pressed Him to come to his Carriage, when putting on his great Coat We attended Him through the Apartments of the Queens Lodge to the Entrance Door— He conversed there jocosely for a little time with General Budé, then Entering his Carriage, when He had one foot on the Step, He looked to see which of his Postillions drove Him, & He enquired of Them which Horses were in the Carriage. He then seated Himself very quietly in his Carriage, with General Harcourt on one side of Him, Myself opposite to The King, & Colonel Goldsworthy, opposite to General Harcourt. H.M.^y drove off from the Door of the Queen's Lodge about a Quarter before 4 o'Clock, attended by an Escort of Cavalry.

Previously to His Majesty's removal, orders had been sent to the officer commanding the Welsh Fuzileers to clear the Castle Terrace, & to lock the Gates to prevent a Croud there or in the Avenues. In consequence the Gates of The Castle were also shut, which not being usual did not escape H.M.^{ys} Notice at this time & He Enquired of Us the reason.



By permission of H. W. Carr-Gomm, Esq

GENERAL GOLDSWORTHY

EQUERRY TO H.M. KING GEORGE III

From the portrait by John Russell

On Entering the Home Park through which We went, in the way to Datchet Bridge, about 20 Loyal Inhabitants of Windsor & these as I saw chiefly Tradesmen, appeared ; As the Kings Carriage drove by Them they bowed respectfully & took a melancholy leave. The King on seeing Them bowed most kindly & here He felt the greatest Emotion which I had yet observed. When He bowed, the " Big Tear " started in his Eye, & putting his hand before his Face, He said with much feeling " These Good People are too fond of Me," & He then added with affecting sensibility " Why am I taken from a Place I like " best in the World." He roused Himself instantly from a sensibility most interesting, & which had now much overpowered Him, & looking round at the Park conversed on various subjects in a hurried manner—

As He proceeded on his journey his flow of Spirits became high, & He had frequent fits of laughing— He talked without ceasing but the topics, & his manner marked too plainly his derangement. He did not appear to be much occupied with the road tho' now & then He asked if He was not near particular places, such as Colnbrooke & afterwards Hounslow, & respecting these He did not make mistake.

In going through Brentford, (& at this time it was nearly dark) a Drunken Man hallowed out as the Carriage passed— The King mistook this, & thinking the shout was intended against Him He observed to Us, that they often hissed Him as He passed this Town— We assured Him that the hollowing had been from a drunken Man, & by no means intended as any disrespect to Him.—

After passing Kew Bridge The King became more observing of the Road than He had hitherto been, and on his near approach to the Gates of the Court at Kew, He was impatient to Allot to Each now with Him in the Carriage, our Stations, & our immediate Occupations on getting out of it— The clear intention of all of which seem'd to be to get rid of all Attendance as much as possible, & that He might Himself go to what part of the House He should prefer—

II. THE KING AT KEW

On his arrival He got out of the Carriage without hesitation, & without stopping He walked on through the Passage & the Hall leisurely. Beyond the latter He quickend his pace & then making a run He attempted to go into the suite of Apartments on the left. His intentions were baffled on finding the Door Locked, & He Evidently shew'd much disappointment— He had Expected He should have found the Queen & his Family at Dinner in those Apartments—

We gave Him no time to reflect on this circumstance but threw open the Doors on the opposite side to the Right & instantly the Apartments allotted for his occupation appeared ready & lighted up—This Suite of Rooms consisted of an Anteroom in which His Pages were to watch. Beyond it was H.M.^{'s} Bedchamber adjoining which & beyond it was a Spacious Room above 40 feet in length—The Apartments looked to Kew Gardens. The King appear'd by no means satisfied with his allotment in this part of the House—& seeing that many alterations had been made, He repeatedly asked who had orderd Them—Those which most particularly attracted his Notice were the placing of a Bed in this Apartment, and the addition of a New Water Closet to the room. These alterations & additions discomposed Him very much. In a short time however He appeared more reconciled to Them & his New Abode. We retired then, leaving H.M.^{'s} to the immediate care of his Pages, as it had been our particular Instructions not to remain with Him Ourselves beyond this Night— We were however desired to go in occasionally during this Evening if it should become necessary to assist in reconciling Him to the Change of his habitation— In the

course of the Evening General Harcourt, Colonel Goldsworthy & Myself went into the Kings Apartment— We found Him under considerable Agitation & full of complaint at the change & He told General Harcourt & Myself that We had deceived Him, tho' in fact We certainly had not in any thing— We had only advised Him to remove, quoting the Physicians opinion that his health would be benifited by a change of Air, & We had promised to attend Him at his own request, & which had pleased Him. We found that before this our Visit to Him He had been amusing Himself in writing & conversation. He now appeared to be full of Schemes. He told Us tho' a Bed had been prepared for Him He would not go to Bed, & dwelt on his firm intentions to sitt up & tire out his Attendants— He remarked to Us that He was very strong & Active, & in proof of this He danced & hopped with more agility that I could have suspected had been in Him, but the sight of such an Exhibition in our Dear King & so much unlike Himself affected Me most painfully.

After talking to Us all very wildly for some time He eagerly took me aside, & told Me that I had always been his Friend, & He desired I would now stand by Him. Then seizing Me by the hand He led Me towards the Door of his Bedchamber & which He open'd— His mind at this time was Evidently much disturbed & agitated, still I followed Him into his Room— On Entering He perceived that Nobody was there & that We were alone— A sudden hope seemed to strike Him of an opportunity now at hand favorable for his Escape from the Apartment. He looked Anxiously, hastily, & wistfully around, & advanced rapidly to the Middle of the room still grasping My hand & looking around. My Friends I had left in the Adjoining Apartment were too well aware of the situation He was in at this time, to be a moment off their guard & they open'd the door, & a Page hearing a Stir in the King's bedchamber presented Himself from their Waiting Room. The King instantly let go My hand & dropped all conversation with Me, & approaching the Page He accosted Him with

placid good humour, & took Him round his room & shew'd Him the Alterations which had been made for his reception.

I am well persuaded the poor Dear King thought He had found an opportunity of releasing Himself from this Apartment & that the intention arose suddenly from what appeared at the moment a favorable one. Assuredly He meant nothing Violent, & I am satisfied his Plan probably was to have rushed out from his own Apartment & made an Attempt to reach that of the Queen.

We staid with the King until half after 11 o'Clock & when We retired He was still fully resolved to put his project of tiring out His Pages in Execution.

Sunday Nov. 30th

This Night as We Expected was an Unpleasant one— The King refused to go to bed & kept up until near 4 o'Clock, when becoming turbulent & violent towards one of his Pages He was forced to his bed. This put Him in great agitation He pulled one of his Pages by the Hair & attempted to kick another. This day his violence did not much subside, & when controuled, violent symptoms of resistance appeared. At times He became sullen— He refused his Meals & was very irregular. He eat very little during the day & refused all Medicine, & threw what He could away.

Monday Dec. 1st

After a very restless Night, the same perturbation of Mind continued as had appeared during the course of yesterday, & in fair report it must be stated, that since His Majesty has been at Kew the unfavorable Symptoms of his disorder have increased, rather than diminished, & in his conversation, Oaths, which had never yet been heard from his lips, were now for the first time were blended not unfrequently, with indecencies—

Tuesday Dec. 2^d

He became very restless through increasing agitation & confusion of Mind, & so much was He depressed in

thought, that He even gave hints of being tired of his Existence & actually entreated his Pages to dispatch Him. Nothing could mark in a stronger degree the confirmed & desperate derangement of his Mind in these moments, or more fully point out the necessity of unremitting & watchful care to those to whom the security of his Person was now confided. Happily H.M. became more composed & moderate towards the Evening, but He continued restless during the Night.

This Evening Sir Lucas Pepys saw the King & inadvertently asked Him if He should like to walk & take a little fresh air in the Morning—Sir Lucas not being at this time in favor with H.M. did not receive that gracious answer, which might have been Expected from an offer so indulgent. He answer'd, that He did not wish to walk. The proposition however was not forgot—

Wednesday Dec. 3^d

Recollecting Sir Lucas Pepys's proposal of yesterday this Morning H.M. expected a Walk & called for his Boots—& He named Me as the Person He wished should attend Him— This awkward contretemps (*sic*) threw all in confusion, & a succession of Messages reached Us that the King Expected his Walk—

Sir Lucas Pepys, finding that none approved of the dilemma into which He had thus so incautiously involved Us all, seem'd to share the unpleasant consequences of it, & Sir George Baker was Equally discomposed & puzzled. All thought the offer proposed had been inconsiderate & rash, but thought that faith should be preserved—

The Physicians consulted the Queen— The Queen was perplexed & agitated, but declined directing, as She had throughout this Illness most wisely resolved.

The Physicians then applied to Me, as His Majesty had named Me as the Person He inclined should attend Him in his Walk— I said that if I was called upon by the Physicians I would go, tho' I was by no means inclined to Volunteer on this Occasion, Even tho' H.M.'s preference had been

so marked towards Me. I added that if I did attend H.M. in this Walk I would not be responsible for the consequences, as I was throughly convinced in my own Mind That H:M: was not then sufficiently composed & quiet to be indulged out of Doors, & I mentioned My recollection of a remark made by D^r Warren the day before, that it would not be proper to trust The King out until He was quieter & more under controul—

The impatience of the King for the promised Indulgence continued to press Us without intermission & to avoid a Walk seemed now next to an Impossibility— Finding it likely, & seeing my preparation to receive My Order from the Physicians, General Harcourt & Colonel Goldsworthy desired they might be of My Party, as it seemd now too late to get rid of the Engagement—

Accordingly We three went into the Adjoining Apartment, & sent a Message to the Physicians to say that We were ready to attend His Majesty in his Walk for one Quarter of an Hour, on the Gravel Walk before the House— The King rejected the offer & refused to accept of such permission; He was Angry, & declared He would not stir out of his Room unless He was permitted to Walk 10 Miles. Under such dispositions the Indulgence was retracted, & We retired from the Adjoining Apartment.

Thus Ended a very disagreeable business, incautiously & unwisely brought on & most unnecessarily. (*Sic.*)

I had mention'd to The Physicians, before I got ready to attend H.M. in this Walk, that I was clear that He Entertained hopes of being able to slip away & by what came out afterw^{ds} proved the intention of giving Us a run, as in the Course of the day He told one of his Pages that his Plan had been to put the Bottle of Arquebusade Water * in his Pocket, & after throwing some of it in my Eyes, to have run off. A Plan not ill conceived, by Heads of steadier reflection.

Most part of this day H.M. passed under considerable Agitation which at times somewhat subsiding He then

* A lotion regarded as a specific for gunshots and wounds.

became more composed, & occupied Himself in various Ways—among these He resorted to an occupation not uninteresting to Him in settled days. He drew Plans of The House, & contrived & sketched alterations in it—& this He did with tolerable accuracy.

From sentences which had occasionally escaped from Him during his illness He had shewn that his Unhappy situation was not unknown to Him—An observation dropped from Him this Morning while drawing which mark'd the sense He had of his Misfortune very strongly—Having drawn a line pretty firmly & strait He approved by saying to His Page “Pretty well for a Man who is Mad”

Towards the Evening these more composed intervals left Him & He became more turbulent & unmanageable, refusing his meals & medicines. At times He was mischeivously Jocose & at which time He burnt two Wigs belonging to one of his Pages— At another He was childishly playful, begging romps & making his Pages wheel Him about the room— At Night He became almost unmanageable, & during the Night He was obliged to be kept in his bed—Altogether this has been the worst day H.M? has experienced.

Thursday Dec. 4th

This Morning having passed a bad Night & with very little Sleep, (& this at short Intervals) appeared by no means better. He refused to get up & on being pressed He defended Himself by gathering up his feet & then darting Them forward with Violence ags^t those who pressed on Him— The controul of H.M? having been hitherto with his Pages, He gradually became more displeased with their Interference, & latterly He at times resisted Them mischeivously—

Parts of this day (as it happens not unfrequently) have been passed by H.M? in tolerable composure—& which continued during most of the night, but sound & undisturbed sleep was still wanting—

In the course of this day His Majesty saw another of his

Physicians viz D^r Gisborne, for the first time since his Illness— As soon as He saw Him instantly recollected Him, & was glad to see Him— In the course of his Conversation with D^r Gisborne He mentioned D^r Arnold one of the Canons of Windsor to whom The King had once been partial, but who had suddenly like Himself gone wrong.* It seems that D^r Gisborne had attended D^r Arnold under his Afflicting Malady when it first appeared. The King recollecting this said to D^r Gisborne, that He hoped He did not mean to use Him as He had done D^r Arnold—

This day The King's Attendant Physicians were Examined by the Privy Council—

Friday Dec. 5th

This Morning Doctor Warren brought Doctor Willis to Kew— He had been sent for to attend on The King, & He now arrived from Lincolnshire. His arrival I beleive was mentioned to The King previously to his seeing Him.

Soon after his arrival D^r Willis went into The King's Apartment without any of the Physicians & attended by Mr Charles Hawkins one of H.M.^{ys} Attendant Surgeons. The Pages were at this time with The King.

His Majesty received D^r Willis with composure & began immediately to talk to Him & seem'd very anxious to state to Him that He had been very ill, but that He was now quite well again— He expiated on his usual complaints against his Physicians, & dwelt much on the loss of his Keys— He told Dr. Willis that He knew where He lived, & He asked Him how many patients He then had with Him under his Care— He then thus address'd Dr. Willis— “Sir Your dress & appearance bespeaks “You of the Church, do You belong to it” Doctor Willis replied “I did formerly, but lately I have attended chiefly to physicks”— “I am sorry for it” answered the

* Dr. Arnold fell a victim to too close an application to study, and died insane in 1802. The King, we are told, entertained the sincerest affection and esteem for him, and from whom the Doctor in his last distressing illness is said to have received great attention.

King with Emotion & Agitation, "You have quitted a profession I have always loved, & You have Embraced one I most heartily detest— Alter Your line of Life, ask what preferment You wish & make Me your Friend— I recommend You Worcester " Thus begun the first acquaintance. In progress H.M. took frequently occasions to sett D^r Willis against His Physicians, & his displeasure pointed principally agst D^r Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys— and He most earnestly begged that D^r Willis would take the former under his care as one of his Patients & remove Him to Lincolnshire—

The Appearance of D^r Willis seemed to Engage much of His Majestys Attention throughout this day— He was at no time Violent but often seem'd distressed—

He felt much on his arrival to be placed about Him— He told one of his Pages, that as D^r Willis was now come He could never more shew his face again in this Country that He would leave it for Ever, & retire to Hanover. H.M. had previously to this not unfrequently Expressed a Wish for a retreat in Hanover, but He now repeated it with more Earnestness—

In the Evening D^r Willis made the King another Visit, The King was at this time in the long room— D^r Willis enter'd alone— Two Pages were at this time with The King. Upon seeing D^r Willis H.M.^y rose, & coming up to Him begun a conversation with Him, but marked by inconsistency & too much Eagerness— He again launched out in strong invective agst His Physicians, & abused the profession. Doctor Willis with calmness told the King that He trusted in the End He would receive benefit from it—that He stood in need of it, that his ideas were now deranged, & that He required attention & Management—

The King replied with agitation & with sharpness— D^r Willis in reply with steady tone of Voice, told Him that his Endeavors to assist & be useful to Him, were due from Him to a Nation for a King they adored; that He must & that He would Exert Himself to restore Him to Them, they had called upon Him & He would not deceive

Them— On this The King became much more agitated, & impatient & He loudly answered D^r Willis, then raising his Voice to a higher pitch told Him that He must, & should be calm— That He would enforce his directions & command all those Attendants in his room to assist & obey also— The King became violently Enraged rushd in great agitation agst D^r Willis with both hands, intending to push Him away, but not to strike Him

Doctor Willis remained firm, & reproved Him in nervous & determined language, telling Him He must controul Himself otherwise He would put Him in a strait Waiscoat. On this hint D^r Willis went out of the room & returned directly with one in his hand from the next room. It was in a paper & He now held it under his Arm. The King Eyed it attentively and alarmed at The Doctor's firmness of Voice & procedure, began to submit. He promised to go to bed & with difficulty went to the next apartment & undressed. On this D^r Willis wishing Him a good Night & recommending composure to Him & moderation, He retired.

I was much struck with the proper manner & the imposing stile of the Authoritative Language which D^r Willis held on this occasion. It was immediately necessary to have this struggle. He seized the opportunity with Judgement & conducted Himself throughout this Interview with wonderful Management & force. He felt his ground with attention, He parried & attacked as circumstances required with great discernment & Energy. As the Kings Voice rose, attempting Mastery Willis raised his, & its tone was strong & decided As the King soften'd his, that of Doctor Willis dropped to softening Unison, but the King still attempted to overpower in Voice, but found stronger powers in that of Doctor Willis & which on Every trial rose superior. Awed at last by the firmness of his Manner, & baffled in Every attempt to resist it, The King gave way & now returned to somewhat of composure, D^r Willis retired.

After He was gone H.M^y continued to abuse the rest

of Physicians, & now principally as He said for not having dealt fairly with Him & by having concealed from Him his real situation— After this, the Poor Dear King overcome by his feelings, burst into a flood of Tears & wept bitterly.

Melancholy but interesting has been this passing scene, but from the circumstances of which, much future benefit may yet arise— This seems to have been the first solid step leading to permanent recovery that has taken place as yet, & wonderful seems the already beginning change from the necessary submission which has this Night been obtained— Never may these Early Effects from it be lost, but may these properly continued restore a deranged Mind through God's Mercy, to reason & tranquillity—& may a beloved King still reign over, & in, the hearts of a Nation who adores Him—

The arrival of Doctor Willis on the 5th of Dec^r 1788 having now made over the general direction of all arrangements relating to His Majesty, chiefly to his superintendence, the constant duties of the King's Equerries & Pages now ceased— Hitherto these for more than two Months had performed all the responsible duties of a most painful Attendance on Him at Windsor and at Kew, for on Them the general management, The Controul & indeed the safety of His Person, had almost Exclusively depended both day & night.

This difficult & important charge thus zealously & cheerfully maintained by Them was now placed in more proper hands under D^r Willis, whose Experience was now added to that of the other Physicians who had been called in on this Afflicting Case.

After Doctor Willis's arrival I requested a short leave of Absence to complete those private arrangements in Town, previous to My own regular Waiting in Turn of 3 Months & which was now about to begin, & which had been interrupted by my having repaired to The Queen's Lodge at Windsor at a Moments Notice when I first heard of His Majestys illness in October last—

After an Absence of some days I returned to Kew on

the Tuesday Dec^r 16th. My Brother Equerries e'er this had all dispersed, & I found a New System in progress—His Majesty's Pages were still continued in their painful duties & some of D^r Willis's Men were connected in attendance with Them. H.M.^{ys} Physicians still came, but D^r Willis on the Spot, & He only, in constant attendance, now regulated principally in Every direction.

The Change which had now taken place produced early jealousies among some of the Faculty, & now from some cause or other, usual Transactions, were not so smoothly carried on as before; interrupting that Harmony & general cooperation which had hitherto prevailed, & various reports of the same Case now spread abroad— These did not become less intricate from Party, & which jarring politics influenced.

Such was the change that had already begun E'er My return, & I was much impressed by an Early but unexpected caution of My Friend Col^l Digby who with a general glimpse He gave Me of the passing Events, cautioned Me to be much on My guard, as now much misrepresentation & suspicion was abroad in certain Quarters, & an Eye to which would not be of indifference to Me— I thanked Him for the hint but observed, that I was indeed surprised that anything should have reached his knowledge which had required a caution so well intended, from so steady a Friend, & added that never should I be found amidst Party Feuds, that I should retire from chequer'd intercourse, & that whenever I was wanted I should be found at hand in the Kings Closet Library & to which through Her Majestys gracious permission I (with some others in attendance) had comfortable Access.

During My Absence various & contradictory Acc.^{ts} of the state of the Kings health had reached me, & to which from my being now deprived of the opportunity of making my personal Enquiries at Kew, I was obliged to listen.

I found that Her Majesty had seen the King since I left Kew, & it was said that this Meeting had agitated Him much, & that during the Night recourse was had for

the first time to the Strait Waiscoat— The Morning after, the King repeatedly said, that He would never more wear the Crown, & desired his Eldest Son might be sent for—

From the Accounts best to be depended on which I have received, much of calm & much of discomposure has at intervals taken place, & sorry am I to have reason to beleive, that disquiet has prevailed in an increasing degree of late, as I find that the Strait Waiscoat has not only been held up, but that it has been put on more than once already.

Tuesday Dec. 16th

On this day of my return to Kew, the Bulletin of the Morning has given very unfavorable Accounts and H.M^y has been put under Coersion in the course of this Evening.

Wednesday Dec. 17th

H.M^y continued turbulent this Morning but in the Evening of this day He became more composed. It is a curious circumstance that this day after three o'Clock M^t Pitt, after He had carried his Majority * in the House of Commons, read at Whites a Letter from D^r Willis mentioning very favorable Accounts, tho' in fact at the time it was read H.M^y happen'd to be most turbulent.

Since My arrival at Kew I have found considerable Stir & strong symptoms of those prevailing jealousies among the Medical Corps, of which I had received reports E'er I left Town; much bustle also seems to have Extended to other parts of the Establishment— This Night I learnt that some of the Pages had censured D^r Warren for going into The King's Apartment this Morning after H.M^y had inclined to go to sleep having Experienced a turbulent Night— D^r Warren's reason for seeing The King was that He did not chuse to take his opinions from the Pages' reports. This I understand was complained of & by The Queens Commands, Sir Philip Hales, † His Majestys Groom of the Bedchamber in Waiting at Kew, made Enquiries of the Pages respecting this difference— The new System

* Pitt's bill of Regency.

† 5th and last Baronet.

of Attendance at Kew brought H.M.^{ys} Grooms of The Bedchamber in Waiting for Two Weeks Each when He was to be releived. Sir Philip Hales, General Lascelles & Gen^l Harcourt Gen^l Gordon succeeded in these Alternate Duties— My duty as Equerry continued now three months without releif & The only one in Waiting On Sir Philip Hales's report, Her M^y is said to have wished that hence forward the Physicians attendance should not be so regular in turn, but that D^r Gisborne should be the only Physician to remain Every Night, & the others should change their Visits to a Weekly one—

Thursday Dec^r 18th

This Morning by Her Majesty's commands Sir Philip Hales was dispatched Early to The Chancellor— Sir P.H: called on General Harcourt in Town & took Him with Him— In the course of this day D^r Willis desired I would, through one of The Queen's Ladies, ask Her M^{ys} permission to go to Town for a few hours— The Queen sent Him word by Me, that unless He had particular business She wished He would not go that Morning.

About dinner time the Prince of Wales arrived— He saw the Queen—& when He came down stairs to our Apartment He called out Sir Lucas Pepys into the Next room, staid some little time with Him, & then returned to Town to dinner—

This Evening I saw the King but I was not in the room with Him— He appeared more deliberate in his Conversation, & did not hurry it so much as usual— He was occupied at his Table & He appeared good humoured & cheerful but the turn of his conversation I could not think emended— He talked of a Windsor Castle Dutchess & many inconsistencies were mixed with rational conversation, which has generally been the case during this Illness—

H:M^y went quietly to bed but He did not sleep with composure— He was restless— In the Night He jumped up & sat a moment at his fire, but returned quietly to his Bed—

D^r Willis has at different times laid great stress on the effects of the Blisters applied to H.M^{ys} legs by Sir Lucas Pepys's prescription, & to which He imputed much of the Excessive uneasiness He had Experienced & He imputed to them much of his late Violence.

Friday Dec^r 19th

The Appearance of H.M^{ys} manner was not so favorable as that of last Night & He indicated symptoms of Crossness— Some books had been given to Him about this time by D^r Willis, of these were four Volumes of Cibber's Works, & some of Foote's Plays— To whom He was obliged for King Lear I know not, but somehow it had been imprudently given to Him. D^r Warren who came to Kew this Morning expressed great objection on this circumstance to D^r Willis. His Son D^r John Willis got all the books from the King & they were replaced in the Library—

In the course of this Morning H.M: became more touchy, & symptoms of returning crossness appeared At one time He became Angry with one of D^r Willis's Men and taking his Feet off the Chair He walked up to Him— He seemd by this to have deceived D^r Willis as He had in the Morning told us that the King could not stir from the Effects of the Blisters. His man seems to have thought so too, for seeing the King coming He said, "He saw He "had cheated Them as He could walk very well "

H.M^{ys} favorite Little Spaniel Flora, was at his request sent for to Windsor, & He was much pleased with it when it arrived this day.

Tho He had certainly not been in the best humour during this day, yet nothing beyond a threatening of bustle occurred. In the Evening He desired to go to bed of Himself & about 5 o'Clock He undressed. As He had appeared rather touchy throughout the day no objection was made to his going to bed thus Early it being thought the best place to keep Him quiet

I saw Him this Night without his seeing Me. He was

talking good humouredly but inconsistently as usual. The present controul Established over H:M^y was new to Me, but He appeared now to be accustomed to it Himself. While He was in bed D^r Willis's Men were fomenting his Legs, preparatory to their being dressed by M^r Keate— Whenever H.M^y put his hands out of bed one of D^r Willis's Men took hold of it, & putting it back again & covered it with the Cloaths, which did not even interrupt his Conversation so habituated was He now to this New System.

By what I have lately observed I expect an Explosion soon among the Faculty, who are Evidently already shy of each other. D^r Willis has confirmed Me this day in My conjecture by what has dropped from Him— He was talking of D^r Warren's having been angry about the Kings having had King Lear given to Him— He said He knew not whence He got it— It was not among the Books He had given Him from the Library but added He "I suppose Warren will tell Everyone that I have given it "to Him" * I begin to think D^r Willis is rather too incautious a Man for his present conspicuous & responsible situation— At the least He is certainly unguarded & imprudent, & too much so for a Man who strongly leans to a Political Party— He does not appear to confine his Politics to the approbation of present measures, or to the Admiration of M^r Pitt, but He attacks M^r Fox & the Opposition with as much zeal as any Partisan I know— He lately detailed to our small but mixed Society an anecdote which He told Us He had just picked up from M^r Pitt's Messenger & who had mentioned to Him that He had overheard the conversation of 2 Blackguards in the Lobby of the House of Commons about M^r Fox, who remarking how ill He looked, one observed that it was not surprising, as " He had eat nothing for some days but

* D^r Willis since this, on his Examination before the Committee of The House of Commons has Himself owned it—R.F.G.

“his own words” A joke which seem’d to please D^r Willis full as well as the Original one of George Selwyn, & which My Friend Colonel Digby now rescued & transmitted to the Doctor—

Saturday Dec. 20th

The high Spirits which had marked the latter part of yesterday Evening gave no favorable prospect of H:M^{ys} falling soon asleep, & they proved the forerunners of much irritation. During the Night He became restless & turbulent, jumped up from his Bed, & in other respects was much unsettled.

About 5 o’Clock in the Morning H.M^y became so ungovernable that recourse was had to the strait Waiscoat : His legs were tied, & He was secured down across his Breast, & in this melancholy situation He was, when I came to make My Morning Enquiries—

However persuaded I had been of the necessity of obtaining positive submission from H.M^y under his Afflicting Malady, as the best means whereby his recovery might be ultimately expected, I have not been prepared for those harsher processes, which have followed— I do not question that these have been now adopted, on a practice, sanctioned by confirmed Experience, but as of this I cannot decide Myself, I can but grieve, & hope the best.

Sir George Baker & D^r Gisborne saw H.M^y this Morning, While H:M^{ys} situation was thus distressing, a profuse Sweat came on, & which afterwards subsided gradually— The Willis’s thought much of the favorable Turn to be expected from this perspiration as hitherto in general there had been no tendency to it.

The King remained under coercion until near Two o’Clock, when He was released, & the perspiration having now subsided, He was permitted to get up. Still however his agitation continued in a considerable degree, & He remained much disturbed. He still talked incessantly & violently, & He was quite wrong in his ideas.

In the Morning this derangement was called Delirium

rather than Insanity. At one time He sighed Violently & complained moanfully. This according to My ideas more resembled delirium, than what I heard afterwards when He was loud, turbulent, & threatening, at these times talking in a manner very unlike Himself, & being extremely angry with all around Him— The Q: was now in no favor, He called M^r Pitt a rascal, & M^r Fox his Friend. The seriousness of H:M^{ys} Malady was strongly marked by everything He said or did this day, which I think has been by much the worst I have yet known, since his confinement. After H.M^y got up the Willis's did not speak so favorably of the effects of his late perspiration, & which had not been followed by the good which they had expected. His pulse had not been moderated by it— At one time when his perturbation was at its height it was supposed to be not less than 140. The variety of inaccurate relations from many quarters, & the many opinions which are floated off in many directions, may make Me at this time (since My return to Kew) more attentive to circumstances, which otherwise I might have deemd of little importance to note down among My daily memorandums— Now I am resolved to put down everything fairly as I see Them (as has been my practice hitherto) let the conclusions on the general information, be what they may.

Things are not now always explained as they have really happen'd, but not unfrequently an occasional turn is here given, how these are to be thought of.

I know nothing of Medicine, but viewing dispassionately, I may judge of what I see as well as another; & my conclusions become an affair of the Mind, & not of Medicine—

I cannot think it kindness to The King or his Family to disperse at a time like this, accounts more favorable than his unhappy disorder in fact can warrant— To raise false hopes by such means of his Case, may at some future time greatly depress the expectations of many, who while they bewailed this awful dispensation of providence, would have waited with patient hope for his recovery.

During the Evening of this day H.M^y has not been violent, but He has been fretful & angry in his conversations— He went to bed early— His pulse remained quick & his eyes wild.

About 7 o'Clock this Evening, the Chancellor arrived— He saw Her Majesty & He was afterwards for some time with Both the Doctor Willis's & He then returned to Town.

Sunday Dec. 21st

H.M: passed a tolerable night & had 4 hours sleep— but in the Morning He appeared irritable & inclined to dispute. This flutter however went off, and about the middle of the Day He became more calm, but continuing still to be loquacious.

The Chancellor came again to Kew this Morning and as Yesterday He saw The Queen, & afterwards both the D^r Willis's (Father & Son) before his return to Town.

The Duke of Gloucester likewise came to Kew this Morning and had a long Interview with both Doctor Willis's—

Towards the Evening His Majesty became more agitated & disturbed, & afterwards He was inclined to be a little unruly. He was checked this time by holding Him down in his Chair, & by the interference of Doctor Willis, who recommended Him to be more calm, or that He would certainly talk Himself into a strait Waiscoat. This grave address produced the wish'd for Effect in some degree, tho' He still continued Angry & abusive.

H.M^y went to bed about 10 o'Clock, but his continued talking when in bed did not favor the hope of his having a good Night— However He had, for when He dropped asleep, He slept 6 hours very comfortably— Notwithstanding which He awoke a little irritable, & which tendency continued at times during the Morning of—

Monday Dec. 22^d

The King was now obliged to be managed at times with great caution to prevent his flying out— On the whole

however He was good humoured & sometimes Jocose— In the Evening Dr Willis said He thought He now saw a road which led Him to the way home—but this allusion He did not explain.

H.M^y was shaved this Morning an operation He submits to not very readily—

Doctor Willis still mentions the uneasiness H.M^y experiences yet from the Blisters & which seem now to be discharging more than usual. M^r Dundas * & M^r Charles Hawkins † who have principally attended to Them find however that there was no inflammation beyond the marks left by the Blisters—

During this day H.M^y continued a little ticklish & He was obliged to be managed by The Attendants very attentively. He took a dislike to a Picture which hung in his room. It was the School of Florence by Zoffany. He had it immediately off the Nails on the Floor, before He was perceived to be busy with it. The Picture was directly removed into the Next room. In the Evening H.M^y's Spirits rose as his bed time approachd. With Me this always indicates the chances of a bad Night, & the report of this Night, has not contradicted My general observation. He was turbulent & disturbed & had not above Two hours sleep. At one time during the course of this Night it became necessary to put Him under coercion.

Tuesday Dec. 23^d

In the Morning H.M^y became more composed, but rose late— The Blisters were still alluded to as a cause of his late irritabilities. They were now in a state of considerable discharge. In the disturbance of this Night the dressing had been tore off, & the Blisters in consequence rubbed. Whatever may have caused late Irritations, it is not unlikely, that the Blisters in such state, threatening a

* Household Apothecary at Kew and Sergeant Surgeon to the King. He was created a baronet in 1815.

† A Surgeon to the Royal Household.

Sore & under such usage, may have increased Them greatly—

During this day H.M^y was very high, but good humoured & occasionally touchy—

A Couch was brought into his room to ease his legs on, but He was too riotously inclined to stay long on it, & at last He became so troublesome, that Coercion was resorted to, & He was confined on the Couch during part of the day, & of the Evening—

About 7 o'Clock it was proposed that He should go to bed. He objected & resisted much but was undressed & bound down in bed in a strait Waiscoat. His spirits were at this time very extraordinary. He was not violent, Neither did his Situation, and his restraint seem to press uncomfortably on Him, and now as He lay stretch'd out on his Bed, He sang. This Night his Blisters were dressed, & found to be going on well & in the fairest way—

It was now proposed that only one Surgeon should dress his Majesty's legs— The three who had hitherto attended on this occasion were M^r Dundas, M^r Keate & M^r Charles Hawkins— The attendance was now to this particular point left to Mr Dundas,—By whom this proposition had been made I do not know. It seem'd to be approved of by D^r Willis, who told Us of it, & on this account, that the Surgeons dressed them at different times, & had different modes; & He therefore thought the dressings would be more regular & similar, under the practice of one— This regulation I perceived stirred somewhat of Jealousy among the Parties.

During the dressing of the Blisters this day by M^r Dundas H:M^y was high, Wild, & in great spirits. He joked with M^r Dundas— He told Him He had a good heart, & tho' He might be born in a Stable in Scotland, there was no reason why He must be a horse— He complained of his Arms being confined too tight, & they were order'd by M^r Willis to be loosen'd— He then asked to be released— D^r Willis was inclined to try if He could be indulged, & ask'd Him how much He might try

his honour in being quiet if He should agree to release Him. The King answered that "He would try all He could to be quiet, which was all a Man could do" The manner in which this was said made Me feel much for the Poor Dear King. It was deemed however not safe to rely upon Him in his present humour & He was left under coercion.

During the Night a profuse perspiration came on, & which particularly appeared from his Head— He had very little sleep, not above an hour's, tho' He laid very quiet, that is without so much talking. He was near two hours without speaking yet at this time He was thought not to be asleep— He was still in the Waiscoat, but in the Morning He was released from it, & the perspiration having gradually subsided He got up about 9 o'Clock—of

Wednesday Dec. 24th

This Mornings Bulletin sent to Town was favorable, stating the composure of the last Night.

Besides this daily Morning Bulletin, others of more particular description go to The Prince of Wales—to The Chancellor & to The Chancellor of the Exchequer—

That which went this morning to the Prince of Wales I have heard contained particulars of the Night which D^r Willis would not sign, & He wrote Himself another Letter to the Prince of Wales, which I dispatched with the Usual public Bulletin.

There is not a day now, in the course of which I do not perceive symptoms of prevailing Jealousies, & I often hear of them as D^r Willis frequently complains in general Terms. Nothing in My opinion can be More prejudicial to H.M.^{ys} true Situation than such jealousies, & to spread these so diligently is little short of mischeif. Still I do not see how they are to cease while, one Party is supported & attended to here, & while the Other Party is not seen, or questioned on Events, as they arise. It is now about three Weeks since Doctor Willis has been at Kew, & I have reason to know, that Doctor Reynolds as well some other

Attendant Physicians have not once been asked their Opinion of the actual State of H.M. from any distinguished Authority, since his arrival. Such proceeding may well give rise to Misunderstandings Misinterpretations, if not to Misinformation—

After Doctor Willis wrote his Letter to The Prince of Wales He saw the Queen, having been sent for while He was writing that Letter— He afterwards went to Town.

This Evening H.M.^{ys} Spirits begun to rise— About his bed time they became very high & He was noisy. However on Doctor Willis's coming in, He became more moderate & soon after that He was composed & quiet.

Thursday Dec. 25th

The Report of this Morning stated that H.M.^y had had about 5 hours sleep, & the Bulletin mentioned that He had a good Night & was quiet in the Morning. Afterwards in the course of the day He became troublesome & turbulent, & so much so that recourse to Coercion became necessary & He was confined on his Couch— Such sudden transitions appeared strange to Me, but I was informed by the best authority, M^r Dundas, that in the Morning when in bed, & when He was reported quiet, He was as deranged as possible, & had been so for some time— Among his extravagancies of the Moment He had at this time hid part of the Bed Clothes under his bed, had taken off his Night Cap, & got a Pillow Case round his head, & the Pillow in the bed with Him, which He called Prince Octavius, who He said was to be new born this day—*

This clearly accounted to Me for the after disturbance of the Morning, & these were proofs too strong, that things were not now always explained as they happened, & that a turn was given how these were to be thought of. Circumstances like these make me depend more on My Own observations, on a Case, which I have as much oppor-

* Their Majesties' eighth child, of whom they were "dotingly fond." He died when four years old in 1783.

tunity as most, to remark on—& which throughout, I have watched with great attention—

Fairly considered, I cannot but think that at present the state of H:M^s health is in a more precarious situation than it has yet been, since the Attacks commenced. It began by irritability, & when I see that irritability greatly increased of late, can I maintain encouraging conclusions?—Melancholy as this situation is, yet the account of it is correct—& I fear the Poor Queen has not been informed of it fairly, & that in truth at this moment She does not know how bad all still remains under this roof— Truth ought to be tenderly unveiled to Her, but She ought not to be ignorant of facts

This Morning I was spoke to by General Harcourt who had received a letter from the Chancellor, desiring Me to be present with Col^l Goldsworthy & Sir Philip Hales when He saw D^r Willis, & the Physicians in consequence of it—

The correspondence arose from the two Bulletins of yesterday & the Queen had been much hurt at some descriptions of treatment which were described in so strong a manner as to wound Her sensibility— On this having been represented to The Prince of Wales, He had told D^r Willis, that He did not wish anything put in his Bulletin respecting the means which might be made use of to controul H:M^s at times. All He desired was, to have a separate Bulletin sent to Him daily, of everything which the Physicians might think proper to mention respecting the true state of His Majestys health. Doctor Warren had after this arrangement dispatchd a Man on Horseback with a letter to D^r Willis with a View to quiet The Queen's uneasiness & desiring that this Letter might be communicated to Her Majesty— This was omitted, therefore General Harcourt on receiving the Chancellor's Letter respecting the Bulletins, & likewise having received the Queen's Commands, spoke to the Physicians respecting the Uneasiness the Queen had felt on the particularly distressing Accounts which had been detailed & sent to

Town— He acquainted them from Her Majesty, that while His Majesty was under that roof, She consider'd Him as being under her care & that Her directions were that no Bulletin should go, but what She saw—— D^r Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys both of whom were at this time present, said that this was exactly what they wished, & that Her Majestys commands should be punctually & cheerfully obey'd, & D^r Warren took this opportunity of repeating that the Prince of Wales had already expressed to Him his Wish not to have anything mentioned in his bulletin alluding to the means used, but only to report such as they chose to send Him of the true state of The King's health. Things being thus settled the Morning Bulletin was wrote, & a separate one intended for the Prince of Wales, was sent up for the Queens Inspection.

Before the Physicians separated The Chancellor arrived about eleven o'Clock. He staid until two o'Clock— During that time He saw the Queen, & D^r Warren & Doctor Willis. I know not if before the Chancellor's return He was told of the Kings increasing turbulence—which about 12 o'Clock had become so great that He was put under coercion & confined on his Couch, & this was not effected without much difficulty, as He resisted Violently— He remained under coercion until 5 o'Clock when He was released from it— H.M.^s voice has been very hoarse this day— This Evening He was put to bed early, & at 8 o'Clock his blisters were dressed. He continued at this time greatly disordered but He was not confined to his Bed— His legs appeared not so well, by throwing Them about a good deal lately He had hurt the Blisters & which in parts had bled. Unless such interruption can be parried, their recovery may not be so immediate—

While the Blisters were dressing the King talked wildly & in a very hoarse Voice. He was angry & much agitated. D^r Willis was very anxious to pacify Him and to keep Him out of the Waiscoat, but to no purpose, & it was order'd to be put on— He became violently agitated & made great resistance— Before 10 o'Clock He became

more calm & had a little Sleep— Violent & long have been the bewilder'd struggles of this day— He has been worse altogether this day than I have yet known Him to be & D^r Willis's Men say they have not yet seen Him so bad—

Friday Dec. 26th

The extreme fatigue & agitation of yesterday brought on during last night some rest H.M^y slept 5 hours & on waking in the Morning He was more composed— His hoarseness still continued— He was now good humoured but quite wrong. The Bulletins were wrote by The Physicians & sent to the Queen in obedience to Her order of yesterday, & She approved of Them. That intended for the Lord in Waiting at S^t James's run thus—" His Majesty was yesterday in the Afternoon disturbed, had "an indifferent night, & is calm this Morning"—

After this Bulletin had been returned approved, Her Majesty sent to say that She wished the word "disturbed" might not remain, & that some other might be substituted—

In consequence the Bulletin was wrote over again & dispatch'd with this Alteration "His Majesty was yesterday in the Evening less calm, had an indifferent Night, & "is calm this Morning"

When this Bulletin was delivered to H.M^ys Groom of the Bedchamber Sir Philip Hales, then in Waiting, for Her Majesty's Inspection, by D^r Willis, He told him that The King was quite composed & that He had of Himself approved of the coercion used last Night for his Controul, & that He had expressed a Wish that no one should go into His room but Himself & his Son, & that Sir George Baker & D^r Gisborne had consented & did not go in— This intimation Sir Philip Hales communicated to the Queen, who desired Him to enquire particularly if the Physicians named, had consented not to go in, & to let D^r Willis & His Son D^r John Willis go in exclusively.

Sir Philip Hales seeing D^r Willis first, He asked Him

respecting the proposition He had mentioned to Him, as coming from the King— His answer was that Sir George Baker had heard the King say so, & that He had consented— Sir George Baker soon after came into The Room by Himself, & not having heard the least of these prior conversations, & not knowing at this time that The Queen had sent to fix their accuracy, He was asked by Sir Philip Hales if He, Sir George Baker, had heard the King say, that He wished only Doctor Willis & his Son to go in, & if He had given his consent— Sir George Baker answered, *that He had not heard the King say so, but that Doctor Willis had told Him so, & that at his request He had kept out of sight tho' actually then in the room.* On this different statement the conversation stopped & no steps were taken in consequence.

This Morning the Earl of Galloway came to make his enquiries *— He was in his way from Bath to attend the business in the House of Lords this Night— I made Him the report of the day by telling Him that H.M.^y had been much out of order yesterday—but that He had slept 5 hours during the Night & that D^r Willis thought Him better this morning— I afterw^{ds} shew'd Him the Public Bulletin—

At this time D^r Willis enter'd our Apartment & Lord Galloway made Enquiries from him, adding that He should be glad to be the bearer of good Tidings to his Friend The Chancellor who He should see that Evening—on Lord Galloways going away D^r Willis said to Him you may tell the Chancellor, that I have never yet seen H.M.^y so well as He is this day.

I was a little surprised at this Message, as H.M., tho' quiet, was still very incoherent & incorrect in his conversations— The ideas are often good & correct, but they are strangely tumbled together & intermixed—

* John, seventh Earl of Galloway, one of the Lords of the Bed-chamber. His first wife, who died in 1763, was Robert Greville's sister. His father was that Earl of Galloway who is described by Horace Walpole as "indecently Jacobite."

In the Evening The King received a Parcel of Spectacles which I had sent for in the Morning (by D^r Willis's direction) from M^r Adams H.M.^{ys} Optician— D^r John Willis took Them in, & He was much pleased with the manner in which He tried Them— After trying Them He wrote directions for the mounting of two Pair which He had now selected— Both the Doctor Willis's laid great stress upon the correctness of the writing of this Order— It was shewn at Night to The Queen, & D^r Willis got it again from Me saying He wished to shew it to The Chancellor.

This reminds Me a stronger instance of H.M.^{ys} collected accuracy in an early period of his Illness, & which was very marked, even under much of its Severity—

At Windsor when H.M.^y asked for his Account Books it was thought proper to keep them back from Him for fear of his puzzling Himself too much with Them. The King was disappointed at the refusal, & set to work to calculate by Himself what was wanted to pay the Workmen under Millikin his Gard'ner at Richmond, & the Board Wages of some of the Servants— He made the Calculation & gave something more as a surplus to meet possible exigencies— After this He wrote out a Draft on M^r Mathias in Scotland Yard for the Sum of £200 well drawn up, & signed, & which He then gave to General Grenville, with a list of the Payments He wished to be made from it, & after which He sent Him to Town to receive the Money. The General did receive the Sum thus drawn for, & found it very exact, & sufficient for its specified purposes & which had been calculated by H.M.^y thus, £100 for the Workmen under Millikin, & £84 for the Board Wages—

This Evening H.M.^y played at Backgamon with D^r Willis, & very much in his usual stile— While playing it appeared to Me singular, that He should play the game with tolerable correctness directing his moves according to the throws, & yet that the conversation should continue so wrong & incorrect at the same time. It was evident that playing did Him good, in as much as it stopped much con-

versation, & by occupying so much of his Attention, it gave a respite to his Mind from the continual hurries, brought on by inconsistent thoughts.

He went to bed composed, & passed the Night quietly, but had not much above two hours sleep—

On the whole this has certainly been a good day, compared with the late ones.

Saturday Dec. 27th

Tho' His Majesty passed a quiet Night, He had not enjoy'd the refreshment of much Sleep, yet during this day He has been more composed & has talked with more calmness than usual.

In the Evening He amused Himself again with a Game of Backgamon, & talked with those around Him on various subjects with recollection, & with a propriety which had not been so well maintained since His removal from Windsor to Kew. With M^r Keate one of his Surgeons in attendance He talked very collectedly & sensibly of The 1st Regt. of Foot Guards & to which M^r Keate was now Surgeon—He talked of the changes in that regiment, which the death of General Cox would make & He spoke of the various officers who would be affected by it, with much recollection—

In his more disturbed hours He has for some time past, spoke much of Lady Pembroke—* This Evening He recollected, what He had at times said of Her, & a sense of shame accompanied his transient & deliberate moments—He very feelingly said to one of his Pages He hoped nobody knew what wrong ideas He had had, & what wrong things

* This is the lady whom Horace Walpole, writing in 1761 to George Montagu, describes as “the picture of majestic modesty” walking at the head of the countesses at George III's coronation. During his youth the young King appears to have conceived a passionate affection for Lady Elizabeth Spencer (Countess of Pembroke), which, like the similar admiration in which he was known to have held Lady Sarah Lennox, he succeeded in mastering or at any rate hiding. During this period of insanity, however, as also during his last long illness, the former lady was frequently uppermost in his thoughts.

He had said respecting Her— This sense of his improprieties which now flashed with a gleam of returning reason, reminded Me of a similar Instance which occur'd at Windsor on one of those days in which there had been symptoms more favourable than had yet appeared since his Attack— He observed at this time, that in his Delirium He must have said many very improper things, & that much must have escaped Him then which ought not, & that He must try & find out what had slipped from Him.

This Evening at his proper bed time H.M^y went to bed with much good humour & cheerfulness, & He soon composed Himself, leaving all who had seen Him in the course of this day, with more sanguine & well grounded hopes of real Amendment, than circumstances hitherto could admit. He passed this Night of Saturday very quietly & enjoyed 6 hours comfortable Sleep—

III. THE QUEEN'S FIRST VISIT

Sunday Dec. 28th

On waking this Morning H.M.'s Spirits seem'd somewhat higher— & I have observed that when they rise they generally portend an alteration for the Worse soon

The Bulletin of this Morning gave the most favorable Account of the state of His Majesty's health of any that had yet left this place— It announced that He was better in every respect, than He had yet been, that He had passed a good night & that He was calm this Morning—

I saw Doctor Willis soon after the Bulletin was dispatched He told me He was going up Stairs to desire that the Queen would pay a Visit to the King as He thought this a very favorable opportunity & that He was sure H.M.^y would receive Her very well. He at the same time requested that I would be in the Antiroom during this Visit & that I would keep the doors shut to prevent improper Listeners. I went immediately into the Library where I found Sir Philip Hales. I communicated to Him the intended Visit & invited Him to come with Me. On our return The Queen was just crossing the Antiroom & entering the King's Apartment, The Doors were shut & Nobody was in the Kings room with Their Majesties but Doctor Willis. In the Antiroom were Sir Philip Hales & Myself, five of The King's Pages & two of Doctor Willis's Men. Latterly D^r John Willis joined us— The Visit was limited to a certain time, & this stipulated time was one Quarter of an hour— We could hear the King's Voice, but without hearing his conversation—and at times He appeared to Us as if He was crying.

As to the subject of the conversation which passed, that

probably will be for ever unknown, as most of it was in German, not a word of which does D^r Willis understand. The stipulated Quarter of an hour passed and a second was enterd upon. This having elapsed also, Doctor Willis called in his Two Men who He said the King wished to shew to the Queen— They went in and in about 20 minutes after the Queen was released, not quite without difficulty having been altogether 55 Minutes in The King's Apartment—

It was painful to see the Poor Queen coming out of the Apartment unattended, through the Anteroom, where there were many attendants. As She passed, Her Majesty seem'd to make an effort to look up, & by her countenance to shew Us that She was not overcome—

Directly after The Queen left the King's Apartment He became Angry & agitated. He abused D^r Willis, calling Him an Old Fool &c,— & He complained of having been detained from his Wife. Doctor Willis afterwards told Me that The King received the Queen with much kindness. He sat down by Her while He spoke to Her & often kissed Her hand, & He cry'd frequently. Tho' the conversation was in German which D^r Willis does not understand I have now but little doubt that it has not remained a Secret for the King afterwards mentioned it to some of the Medical People & to his Pages, & if his narration was at this time correct it was such as was improper for Her to have heard. In substance it was that He did not like Her, that He preferd another, That She was mad & had been so these three years, that He would not on any Account admit Her to his Bed till the year 1793 for reasons He then improperly explained, & such like extravagant & wild conversation—

Much is it to be hoped, that whatever did pass at this Interview, was not such as H.M^y now represented it. Doctor Willis disbeleived it & denied it positively, & persisted in affirming that He had received the Queen very well. I wish however I had not heard the King say on the Queens leaving his Apartment "That She had sworn She "would be Esther"—

The King continued for some time so violent after the Queen left his Apartment that it was much apprehended that coercion could not be avoided, but the threat of it luckily pacified Him in some degree, tho' not so much so as to make his Management otherwise than very difficult throughout the day, from the fear of his flying out at any moment—

After the Visit, his Conversation was sadly alter'd from what it had been yesterday, & his manner was disturbed—The Visit certainly has failed in its object, for it has done Him no good. He went to bed however at his usual time, & notwithstanding late flurries, He passed a tolerable Night & had 5 hours sleep—

Monday Dec^r 29th

In the Morning H.M.^y continued much the same as last Night, He was agitated & quick, and his conversation much bewilder'd. He refused to get up at his usual hour, & gave strong symptoms of being determined to be troublesome. A partial coercion of a few hours, checked much, & He got up about 2 o'Clock. Throughout the day He continued much disturbed & unsettled. He rambled much in his ideas, & talked wildly, repeating frequently the conversation He had had yesterday with the Queen, which with other very inconsistent Subjects were at this time his usual Topics—

He retired to bed about Nine o'Clock—

Tuesday Dec^r 30th

Last Night was a very Indifferent one— H.M. had little or no sleep. About 2 o'Clock in the Morning He became so unquiet, that recourse was had to The Strait Waiscoat. He has during moments of less ruffle being persuaded to keep this Waiscoat under his own Waiscoat a practice as I am informed not unusual with Persons under care for the same unhappy disorder. This is done to be more in readiness, & with less difficulty whenever it becomes necessary to have recourse to its restraint. In fact H.M.

had had it on all yesterday with this purpose in View, but He had persuaded Doctor Willis to let Him be without it last night—

Wednesday Dec. 31st

After a Low'ring Evening H.M. went to bed in such state of Mind as not to give reasonable hopes of his passing a good Night. He slept altogether about 3 hours, but was restless & Unquiet during the rest of it. During the day He was disturbed & inconsistent He now reverted to Windsor Ideas, which He has dropped for some Weeks—He resumed with Doctor Warren the Subject of his Baronetage, the Warrant for which He had been continually making out at Windsor but which He not mentioned to Him since He had been at Kew previous to this day.

This Morning the Chancellor arrived & remained here some time. Doctor Willis was out but He saw his Son Doctor John Willis. General Goldsworthy who happen'd to be here this Morning was sent by The Chancellor to apprise the Queen that He was arrived, & Her Majesty saw Him—

The King has now & then, at times lately talked of the Parliament, which somebody has told Him, has met. After the first debate in the House of Commons He asked who had made the best Speech. Tho' he now occasionally alludes to Parliament He does not speak much about it, but He constantly dwells on the same idea which is that they are mistaken, that Their Meeting is to No purpose for that they can do nothing without Him. He says that no Money can be had without his consent, That the Army will soon disband for want of Pay. Such are the present rambling reflexions which now form his political Ideas.

During this Morning the King has been very turbulent & so ungovernable that recourse was made to the Strait Waiscoat. He has been much agitated & very angry with everybody around Him, In the Evening becoming more calm He was released. Turbulent as the Morning has been the Evening has made welcome Amends & during

which He has been more calm & Collected than He has been for some time.

While playing this Evening with D^r Willis at Backgammon He asked Him many questions respecting His House in Lincolnshire. If his Terms were not high, & what his Patients gave Him— The Doctor told Him that none gave less than four Guineas a Week, besides other expences & that for Lord Leigh He has £1300 a yr.* He then asked if M^{rs} D-n-by had not been with Him, & He was curious to know about her having destroyed Herself while there— H.M^y then asked who it was that kept another house like his at Leicester— He was told D^r Arnold †— This reminded Him of Doctor Arnold Canon of Windsor, & of whom He now talked much & related many Anecdotes, particularly alluding to the beginning Symptoms of his Illness. All this He did with much accuracy & recollection. D^r Arnold [Canon of Windsor] died under confinement—

H.M^y talked afterwards of Burton the Musician who He called a Vain Empty Man & half Mad & He ridiculed the March He had composed on seeing some French Soldiers returning from the heat & exercise of a Feild day. & He now recollected the expression of Sir John Dyer (of the Prince of Wales's Family) who having heard Burton giving this preface to his Composition, & the March, exclaimed dryly "Fine Comfort for a tired Soldier"— I was present Myself at this time, when M^r Burton was in the Music Room at The Queen's Lodge, where He made this display, & I can well answer for the Accuracy with which H:M^y had now detailed the circumstances which had then occurred.

On the whole this has been a very remarkable day. One of Doctor Willis's Men told Me He had never seen the

* Fifth and last Lord Leigh died in 1786, after having been for some years under the care of Doctor Willis.

† Thomas Arnold, M.D., was born in 1742 and died in 1816. He kept a large lunatic asylum in Leicester, in which town he was deservedly popular. According to the *Gentleman's Magazine*, "He was an enlightened ornament of his native town."

King so bad as He had been during one part of this Morning, nor so well as during some parts of this Evening—

When H:M^y went to bed at his usual time He asked Doctor Willis to let Him go to bed, without keeping on the Waiscoat. The Doctor told Him if He was sure He could trust Himself to lay quiet without attempting to get up that He should be glad to indulge Him in his request. The King promised & the indulgence immediately took place.

Late this Evening M^r Pitt came— He had a long Interview with the Queen, after which He saw Doctor Willis—

Thursday Jan^y 1st 1789—

The very favorable Accounts of last Night were confirmed by their continuance this Morning, & to these, circumstances still more favorable were now added—His Majesty passed a very good Night He slept about 7 hours & He awoke calm & composed— The Bulletin, the most favorable one which had yet appeared Ushered in the New Year with joy & with redoubled hopes—

Doctor Willis gave to M^r Pitt last Night the most flattering accounts— He told Me this Morning, & also to The Baron Alvesleben the Hanoverian Minister, that He had assured M^r Pitt last Night that His Majesty was then, while He was speaking to Him so well, that He was sure He was at that moment as capable of transacting any business of State, as ever He had been in his life. I own I was not a little surprised at Doctor Willis's hazarding thus, & unpressed, such very strong assertions— Sharing in the general joy at the late more favorable appearances, & as eager as any to cherish the fondest hopes, still I did know that the time was not yet come for Us to be too sure.

Prudence in cases of uncertainty, should withhold a little for moments of eventual Interruption, & for those Turns so sudden & so unexpected, which We have all occasionally witnessed throughout the course of this distressing Illness— Less triumph on short successes, & more check on the eagerness of Politics, seem to Me the two desireable essentials

at present wanting, but well worthy of Doctor Willis's attention in his responsible situation at Kew— Too much inattention to these will possibly involve Him in scrapes from which He might easily have kept Himself clear, but if He will blend the Politician with The Physician, He must expect the usual rubs of Party, & becomes their fair game— If He has made up his Mind to risk such Chances—he may speculate *on the Retreat of The Rats*, if it so pleases Him, or on the conduct of those, who do not yet go with Ministers.—

Doctor Willis told us this Morning much of The King's late conversations, which from his report have been collected, & marking recollection, D^r John Willis, as His Father informed us, was to go to Town by The King's desire to call upon the Chancellor “to let Him know how well He “was for I daresay, added He, He thinks Me very bad” He gave at this time the name of His Groom in waiting to D^r Willis's Son, & an Order for Him to receive his Horses while in Town at his Stables, & desired He would look at his Horses at Pimlico.

In the Evening I saw H.M^y as usual for a short time, but without his seeing Me. He was talking with good humour & at times very consistently, but He still mixed much in the Conversation, which was decidedly wrong— He played several games at Backgammon with D^r Willis & with D^r Reynolds— The clouded Shade which most struck Me this Evening, was his still talking of Lady Pembroke, & singing “I made love to Kate”— His manner was more generally familiar than it certainly would have been, had He been quite Himself— He told his Page Brawn that He was his best Servant (& in this He was not far wrong) but He marred much by immediately tapping Joe one of Willis's Keepers across the Breast, & telling Him, that after Brawn, He was the best Servant He had— With another of his Pages (Papendick) He was not so well pleased, having for a moment given way to his irritability, & struck Him— On the whole however his conversation was less deranged & his behaviour less prone to violence—

Before He went to bed He varied the amusements of the Evening & from Backgammon He set down to Piquet & He played a few games with M^r Charles Hawkins, & He got credit for throwing out his Cards tolerably well

This Night M^r Pitt wrote to Doctor Willis by a messenger & received an answer by the same—

Friday Jan^y 2^d

This Morning on My going down to make my usual enquiries after His Majesty I had the pleasure of hearing, that He had passed a quiet & a good Night & that He had had 5 hours of comfortable sleep. When Doctor Warren arrived (for this was the Morning of his Attendance in turn) He saw the King, & He afterwards met the rest of the Physicians to consider as to the Bulletin of the day— When finished it was given to General Gordon (the Groom of H.M.'s Bedchamber then in waiting) who carried it to The Queen for Her inspection. What this Bulletin was I know not as I did not see it then— When General Gordon returned from the Queen's Apartment I found that She had wished an Alteration, & that The Physicians would insert “ that The King continued mending.”

Doctor Warren said He could not see that things were mending & hesitated from giving his consent to the proposed alteration— Another Bulletin was in consequence prepared & Doctor Willis carried it up Himself to The Queen—

While this was going on, I was in the Library by Myself waiting there to receive the Bulletin as usual, & I now heard Doctor Willis & the Physicians in animated conversation in the next room, & during which time, Lady Charlotte Finch * & Lady Harcourt were there— I heard parts of the conversation as it was loud— Doctor Willis seemd very angry & He told Doctor Warren, that He did not allow his good sense to direct his Judgement.

Doctor Warren remained (as I was afterwards informed

* Governess to the princesses.

by a Person present) very collected & calm, but could not alter his Opinion for that of Doctor Willis—

Doctor Willis in the course of this dispute said to Dr Warren “Why You will not allow Him to be mended until He is well”

“Yes” replied Doctor Warren “whenever I see Him “one hour under the direction of his reason & judgement, “I will say that He is well.”

On being pressed further, Doctor Warren said He had often in such cases heard many sensible remarks made by a Patient, but these did not prove that the Person was well, but improper remarks always were decisive & proved that the Person was still deranged.

After a long discussion & altercation the Bulletin of the day, after three Alterations, stood thus—

“His Majesty passed yesterday very much in the same “manner as He did the day before, has had a very good “Night & is this Morning in a comfortable way.” In this form it was dispatched—

This Morning on going into the Pages Room, which is the Anteroom to the Kings Apartment, I observed a Paper unsigned pinn'd up over the Chimney Peice—& on which the following was wrote. “No one but the Pages are “at any time to go into the Kings Apartment, without “being introduced by, or having leave from, Doctor Willis.”

Whether this notice has origin from any thing relating to the dispute of this Morning on the Bulletin, I am as yet uninformed—

Before dinner I asked Doctor Willis how the King was going on— He told Me extremely well—& said that He had desired to see Me that Evening, to play a Game of Backgammon with Him— About Seven o'Clock Doctor Willis went to the King, who immediately sent for Me.

The moment I came in The King laid down his Cards (He was at the time playing at Picquet with Dr Willis) & in haste came up to Me, & clasped Me closely in his Arms, He then kissed Me, with Tears in his eyes— Nothing could be more affectingly expressed than the flattering kind

Nature of the Poor Dear King towards Me at this moment— His Intentions of much kindness were not to be mistaken, but their affectionate expressions were introduced by too much wildness of countenance, & a hurried manner— He desired Me to sit down by Him, & told Me how happy He was to have Me again with Him, & added that I should now stay with Him until his Bed time. He then called to one of Doctor Willis's Men who He shewed Me as a Warwickshire Man— He then told Him to go round to Me, and intercede, that I should make his peace for Him. He then continued talking to Me on various subjects, tho' truly not with uniform consistency—or wished propriety—for these would not have been his selected Topics had He been Himself. The Queen was not now in favor—but Lady Pembroke was. His clouded Judgement now was running riot against that, which Nature had blessed Him with in his unembarrassed days—

H.M? wished Me to play a Game of Piquet with Him—not knowing the Game much He gave Me a lesson, after which I played one Game with H.M?—

I made this observation during My Visit. Whenever Doctor Willis was out of the Room, He rambled wildly on various subjects, but when the Doctor returned He turned the subject, played his Cards better, & talked more cautiously.

During this My Visit Sir Lucas Pepys came in. The King conversed with Him on Latin, with which of late He has been much occupied—

From circumstances I perceived that H.M? played a part occasionally, with Doctor Willis, & not ill—

Tonight while He was sitting at the Table, The King in a low voice (addressing Himself to Sir Lucas Pepys & me) & with a wink, told us that The Doctor was a great Rascal & then added “Tricking in Love & in Physick you know is all fair”

At one time He took his opportunity of complaining to Sir Lucas & Me, of the Situation of a King in a Strait Waiscoat (and He now not unfrequently wore a precau-

tionary one under his Coat) in a most affecting manner, & when Doctor Willis was out of the Room he opened his Waiscoat & shewed us the Strait Waiscoat taking down its long Sleeves, & strings—

After this melancholy display it was necessary to pull off his Coat to set it to rights again— He stripped & never shall I forget the painful, & unpleasant sight— Heavens! what a Spectacle to see The Dear Afflicted King standing in a Strait Waiscoat, & tucking up Himself, the Sleeves & Strings, until they might be wanted!!

After this He put on his Coat, & all was so far well again but He walked about & talked wildly— Then laying hold of My Arm He expressed a Wish to shew Me parts of his Apartment & He called to Sir Lucas Pepys to come also.

At this time Doctor Willis reentered the Apartment & finding H.M? considerably agitated He told us We were wanted in the next room— The King as quick as thought understood what was meant by this, & sideling to Me He begged Me not to go— Doctor Willis observing this, repeated & in a firmer tone, that We were wanted in the next room On which I said to the King “ Sir I must go ”—

Sir Lucas Pepys followed, & at The Door The King most kindly took his Leave of Me, & with much affection kissed Me.

During this Visit the conversation rambled on many various Subjects, & at one time He talked much of going to Hanover during the ensuing Summer, & told Me I should go with Him, that My appointment should be considerable & that I should have a Gold Key— Said He would have the same Yatch we went together in in the Year 1781 to the Nore & that it should now be called The Royal George.

Saturday Jan^y 3^d

The Accounts of this morning are that the King has passed a good night, during part of it He had talked much, but one of Doctor Willis's Men checked Him, by displaying the Waiscoat on the Screen, as one of the Attendant Pages

told Me. I find that during this day the King has been somewhat quarrelsome, & required management to prevent his flying out—

I went to Town this Morning for a few hours & on the road I met the Chancellor on his way to Kew— He saw the Queen, and likewise Dr Willis, & staid some time.

In the Evening the same ticklish dispositions remained & both Doctor Willis's informed Us, that they feared a Storm was brewing & that H.M^y would pass an Unquiet Night.

Sunday Jan^y 4th

The King passed an Indifferent Night, & four hours Sleep— At times He talked much & often incoherently. In the Morning when He awoke He was much in the same state of Mind as yesterday— He was quick and ticklish to manage, but He was not violent—

The Bulletin of this day was dispatched without objection which it well might, as it was even more favorable than perhaps it ought to have been. It mentioned that the King had had a quiet Evening, that He had had 4 hours sleep & that He was calm this Morning—

M^r Best, Secretary to the Hanoverian Minister, came to the Library this morning before the Bulletin was made up, and enquired of Me the State of H:M^ys health. I gave Him what particulars I knew— Soon after Doctor John Willis joined us in the Library, & M^r Best asked Him, What sort of Bulletin we should have. He answered, "I doubt but an Indifferent one; It does not deserve a good one." After this conversation, & when the Bulletin appeared, I whispered M^r Best, "you know now how to read our Bulletins."

During this day The King was quiet, but impatient of advice & cross— He first refused to have his dinner & then desired to go to bed, with management however the day rubbed on without a crash— In his more sedate moments He amused Himself with Drawing Plans.

His late passion for Latin, has continued— He sent

D^r Willis to the Library for an Ainsworth's Dictionary & Tully's Offices— These I found for Him, but they were soon returned to the Library.

In the Evening D^r Reynolds saw the King for some time. Doctor Willis accompanied Him into his Apartment.

D^r Reynolds read a little to Him but it was not easy yet to fix Him long to a subject.

I will venture to affirm, from what I saw when I was lately called into H.M.^s Apartment, that Doctor Reynolds cannot have had a fair opportunity of judging accurately of the King while Doctor Willis is in the Room. I have observed (if I may use such expression) that there is somewhat of Trick in his Management. The Willis's have established such controul over Him, that the King Himself manages in some degree his conversation when before Them. D^r Willis always interposes & stops Him, when He is begining to talk wildly, or inconsistently, & thus turns his ideas.

It was very plain, when Sir Lucas Pepys & Myself were in the Kings Apartment a few Evenings ago, that whenever Doctor Willis was out of it, The King rambled directly in his usual style, & which altered, as soon as He appeared again.

While I was in the Pages room (The Antiroom) this Evening, Doctor Willis desired to speak to Me in the Library. I went out with Him to the Library—when He begun by saying He wished Me to assist Him on a particular Subject if I had no objection. He then told me of the behaviour of one of His Majesty's Pages (Ernest) which He had thought had been exceedingly improper both to The King & to Himself. That his manner to The King was too rude & threatening, & improper to be used to anybody in that situation, & that the King seemed to stand perculiarly in awe of Him from that treatment. He added that He had also behaved in a saucy & improper manner to Himself & to his Son. That He knew not if it was his natural manner or not, but from what He seen of Him hitherto He appeared ungracious & threatening in the highest degree. He concluded by stating that He had spoke of this, to The Chan-

cellor, & that He had told Lady Harcourt & Lady Charlotte Finch that He would speak to Me to use My Authority, & that now He requested it—

Having listen'd to this Statement from D^r Willis with attention, I replied, that my Situation as Equerry to His Majesty was very limited as to its powers, & that I had made it a constant rule, never to exceed them. I stated that I had no authority at all out of the Stable Department & none at any time over His Majesty's Pages. That therefore I could not on any account, on the given case, as Equerry interfere on the score of Authority— I told D^r Willis that I knew Ernest's manner was not pleasing, & that I had never thought it so—& possibly it might now have increased, rather than diminished in ungraciousness, but be that as it might, that I really did beleive that much of it belonged to his natural Character. I now readily promised Doctor Willis, that He might depend on My doing all I could to assist Him on this Occasion, by talking to Ernest in such manner, as I should think most likely to answer his wishes & the purposes of this Conversation.

Monday Jan^y 5th

The King during this Morning was not violent, tho' at times very cross, much out of humour, & most impatient of advice from D^r John Willis—

In the Evening Doctor John Willis desired I would go into the Kings Apartment— I found there Sir Lucas Pepys, who was playing at Cards with H.M^y. I was received as usual with much kindness, & He desired I would sit by Him. Soon after Mr. Charles Hawkins enter'd the Apartment who releived Sir Lucas Pepys at a Game of Piquet with H.M^y, who was by no means in the best humour— He particularly directed his resentment against D^r John Willis who was sitting on one Side of Him, & to Him He said many Severe things. As the King was speaking quick & with a loud Voice, Doctor Willis now appeared from the next room, attended by one of his Men, & who placed Himself in sight & not far from the King— This seem'd to

agitate H.M? a little, but it checked Him at the same time. Doctor Willis now made me a Sign, and also to Sir Lucas Pepys to retire, which we contrived to do without the King perceiving it. A short time after this, matters became more quiet & this beginning Storm dispersed—and M^r Charles Hawkins continued to play at Piquet, & remained with H.M? a considerable time—

Tuesday Jan^y 6th

The King passed a good night, & in the Morning He was tolerably calm. After the Physicians had left Him He sent for a Bible which D^r Willis received from Me out of the Library— This Morning M^r Pitt came & had an Interview with the Queen & He afterwards saw D^r Willis—

During this day H.M. remained as He had begun it, & in the Evening He saw nobody but the Doctor Willis's, & the Rev^d M^r Tho^s Willis Prebend of Lincoln, a younger Son of D^r Willis. This Gentleman has been introduced lately : He has seen the King occasionally, & is often here on his Father's concerns— During this Evening D^r John Willis & The Prebend were chiefly with the King— The latter read Him a Sermon preached lately by Him, & conversed with Him on religious subjects. Religion this day silenced Latin. This I hope may produce the benefit in View, but I have my doubts, as his Mind is not yet settled, that it may lead it into Wanderings. I am fearful, because at the beginning of this Illness religious topics much occupied His M^ys thoughts, & then greatly bewildered Them—

D^r Gisborne was in waiting this Evening, but did not go into The King's Apartment. He remained a long time in the room adjoining, viz the Antiroom

The Prince of Wales & the Duke of York arrived this Evening & staid about an hour with Her Majesty.

Doctor Willis acquainted Me that they were wishing that the King might get out a little in a Carriage, but that there was difficulty about fixing the Attendants who would be proper to go out with Him, & that The Queen wished to see the Chancellor about it—

Wednesday Jan^y 7th

The King passed a quiet Night & slept nearly 5 hours— Early in the Morning He became a little agitated, but all subsided, & He got up about his usual time.

Doctor Willis went to Town this Morning to be examined by the Committee of the House of Commons— D^r John Willis remained with the King, & his Brother The Rev^d M^r Willis went in with Him, & was much in the Apartment during this day.

D^r John Willis came to Me in the Library for Pope's Essay on Man for the King, & which I gave Him—

In the course of this Morning D^r John Willis informed Me that the King was remarkably mild & very collected, & that He had read a good deal. As this was not usual, Col^l Gordon (who happen'd now to be with Me) & I, ask'd D^r John Willis, how much the King had read, He replied as much as We could read in an hour & a half, in the course of the Morning—

The Chancellor was here this day & staid some time He saw the Queen & afterwards had an Interview with D^r John Willis.

About 7 o'Clock this Evening D^r Willis & Doctor Reynolds came back from Town, & by Them we were informed that the examination had not been gone through this day— D^r Willis had only been examined in part, & was order'd to attend the Committee again tomorrow. By my conversation with D^r Willis I found that He had been very closely pressed & questioned by M^r Burke & M^r Sheridan— That He was angry with Them & with M^r Sheridan particularly— M^r Fox however seem'd to have gained on Him by the more liberal manner in which He had examined Him— He said none could behave more like a Gentleman than He had done tow^{ds} Him on this Occasion, & that He had put the questions He proposed to Him with great delicacy—

During this report of his examination I must own I could

understand the drift of some of the Questions which M^r Burke & M^r Sheridan had put having seen much since I have been in attendance at Kew.

From what Doctor John Willis had told Me this Morning I had in my mind put this as a good day, but in the Evening I learnt another history. Tho' the King had not been violent still symptoms of derangement at times throughout the day have appeared very marked— After dinner He sang & was hurried— Spicer one of Doctor Willis's Men, shewed Me a little slip of Paper which the King had given Him this day & which He had wrote Himself— It was dated & signed GR. at the top & at the Bottom, & promising to pay Spicer £50 a year during Spicer's Life, & after his death this Annuity to go to his Wife & Daughter— It was not uncustomary at this time for H.M^y to give these kind of promisory Notes

Bowman another of D^r Willis's Men who was present at this time told Me, that He was out of favor this day with the King. As He was a favorite always, I told Him I was surprised to hear of this change in his instance, but He said that for a week past, He had been frequently in & out of favor. The Kings partiality to Bowman had been occasioned by a likeness He had Himself discovered in him to The Pss. Mary, & this indeed had not been unobserved by many others. In the Evening H.M^y had a strong dispute with D^r John Willis, but it did not last long.

D^r Reynolds was with the King this Evening for some time. When He was about to retire He became more agitated & getting high, He therefore desired D^r John Willis would send His Father into the Apartment, as from not having seen Him during the course of the Day, his presence might give a Turn & quiet Him. It did so—

Thursday Jan^y 8th

The King had very little Sleep during the last Night; He slept scarce more than an hour, but He remained quiet in his bed.

In the Morning He was in good Spirits, & D^r John

Willis and his Brother remained a good part of it with Him.

The Queen sent to Me this Morning to speak to Me. This is the first honor of the Kind I have had, since My attendance on His Majesty, viz that of five weeks at Windsor during the first progresses of his Illness, & three weeks now past of My Waiting at Kew— It was to see if I could set to rights Her Majesty's Stop Watch—which had got into irregular striking. The Task was not difficult, & I was happy at My success. Her Majesty took this opportunity of enquiring from me respecting my Second Visit to The King in his Room. I gave Her some particulars which had then occur'd, & in as gentle a manner as I could— After this I retired—

This Morning General Harcourt came to Kew— Lady Harcourt was closetted with Him for some time, after which He saw the Queen, as did also Col^l Goldsworthy.

About dinner time Sir Lucas Pepys came & gave Us some Account of the Examination of the Physicians before the Committee of the House of Commons. Doctor Willis arrived later. He had been in Attendance, but was not examined this day, & was to attend again tomorrow—

Throughout this day The King continued in high Spirits but altogether calm— He had a project to light up his Room more than usual this Evening, but this was not done—

Friday Jan^y 9th

The last Night was a good one, & the King had between five and six hours good sleep, & during the rest of the Night He lay composed & quiet. In the Morning however much of his usual state appeared. He now talked much of going an Airing this morning to Richmond Park, & intimated that I was to go with Him— He employed Himself in packing up some Books, which He said were to go. Then turning to one of his Pages to whom He had been speaking He took from his Breeches Pocket a pack of Cards, & six Counters which He shewed, & then put back again.

D^r John Willis & M^r Tho^s Willis were much with the

King this Morning during D^r Willis's absence in Town, attending on The Committee of the House of Commons. They made a favorable report of Him, said that He had been reading, & that they also had read much to Him. M^r Hawkins also saw much of H.M^y who talked much on political Arrangements, one of which was to make Lord North Speaker—

The Evening passed tolerably well & without any particular occurrence.

Saturday Jan^y 10th

The preceding Night was an Indifferent one, & with but very little sleep— Towards the Morning H.M^y became restless, & inclined to turbulence until the hour of his getting up. His more quiet behaviour during the few last days had procured Him an Indulgence viz the total release from the momento Waiscoat, & which was not even hinted— This Morning however when He arose it was again put on, as a warning check only, but no further use of it was, made, nor yet necessary. He continued in Spirits during the day.

D^r John Willis went to Town this day to be ready for his Examination before the Committee of the House of Commons; His Brother was much with H.M^y during this Morning and was well satisfied with his general manner & appearance among other details He told us that He listen'd to his reading to Him for three hours. However favorable such circumstance was, I own I could not help thinking it a very remarkable one, because it had been a general observation amongst Us, that He never yet could settle for many Minutes together to any one subject without introducing some new Subject, which made Him lose sight of the former—

In the Evening D^r John Willis returned from Town & soon after followed D^r Willis. The latter only had been examined. Doctor Reynolds was also here. By the little that has dropped at different times from their several examinations, I perceive pretty plainly that the Questions of the Ministry, & particularly those which come from Sir

John Scott,* are very much directed to this View viz to give over, if not all, at least as much of the management of The King as possible, to Doctor Willis—who came back vastly pleased with his (Sir John Scott's) Examination of Him (Doctor Willis), & on which He observed that He was the only Person in the Committee who knew how to put his question so as to find out what He wished by Them— & that many others, M^r Sheridan &c, asked questions which made against Them, when the Answers were given.

The King this Evening was at times touchey & difficult; at others high, but in the End all subsided tolerably well. With Doctor Reynolds, who was with Him a considerable time, He conversed much in his usual way. He was impatient of contradiction. Everything like it, He said, put Him in agitation: He was unsettled & fidgetty, Play'd a few games at Picquet, but with inattention. He talked incoherently, & at times He returned to indecencies & mixed these in his conversation—

Colonel Digby after an absence of near three weeks returned this Evening to dinner, & was sent for by The Queen very soon after his arrival—

Sunday Jan^y 11th

The last Night has been a most unquiet & restless one. H.M^y could not be controuled or kept quiet in his bed, & in about an hour after his retiring to it recourse was obliged to be had to the Waiscoat— In the Morning He was released, & after the strong perspiration which restlessness & coercion had occasioned had subsided He got up, & afterwards appeared tolerably tranquil—

After My Breakfast I was sent for by The Queen, & I obey'd the Summons directly— I received intimation from Her Majesty, that it was intended that the King should take an Airing in the Coach, & it being now a Frost I was asked if the Horses were frost shod. I informed Her Majesty

* Sir John Scott was at this time Solicitor-General, and was later Lord Eldon, the famous Lord Chancellor.

that they were all ready, both Carriage & Saddle Horses, & that everything would wait Her further Commands. Her Majesty then made enquiry of Me respecting the Roads, & of these I immediately procured the best information I could, and all preparations were then made in all directions. Her Majesty, as it was snowing at this time, expressed some fear, as H.M^y had not been out for some time, that the weather was so severe as to risk his Catching cold. I own I was exceedingly surprised when I first received intimation of these sudden intentions to take His Majesty an airing in such weather, & especially as I knew, how blustering and unquiet a night He had passed, & by which He had been extremely heated

My anxieties on this extraordinary project did not dwell with Me long, as Lady Charlotte Finch informed Me that Doctor Willis had put off the intended Airing as Her Majesty was apprehensive of the King's catching cold—

Throughout this day the King continued high & could be managed but by great caution. He was quick, hurried & much out of humour. The Queen, this day, sent Him by one of Her Pages, a fine Bunch of Grapes from the Hot-house. On their appearance He asked who had sent Them. He was told by The Queen— He asked what Queen, & if it was Queen Esther who had sent Them. The Page answered that Her Majesty His Queen had sent Them, upon which He said He would not receive Them & order'd Them away—tho' on returning calm, He eat some of Them.

It is painful to mark such details, but the real state of His Majestys Mind, from time to time, is an object of so much interest & importance, that the progressive circumstances connected with it cannot be withheld in fair narration, where continued memorandums refer to daily occurrences.

His Majesty during this Evening continued to be very difficult to manage, as He was irascible in his manner & wild in his Conversation. He talked much of Lady Pembroke as usual—much against the Queen—& dwelt on variety of subjects, with great inconsistency & incoherence— He told M^r Dundas that He would sing to Him some

verses of his own composing to Handel's Music, & begun to hum the tunes to Them.

The Rev^d M^r Willis, followed Sir Lucas Pepys into the Kings Apartment— The former met with his displeasure very soon— He told Him He would not be advised by Him—that He was born not to be dictated to, but to command.

In a little time He became agitated & turbulent to a great degree on Doctor Willis's coming in, & now every thing seemed to threaten extremities, By slow & cautious means however all became more moderate, & He went quietly to bed between 9 & 10 o'Clock & soon after He fell asleep. Of late I have observed that H.M^y, almost without variation, awakes after an hour's sleep & then soon & often He goes to sleep again for 3 or 4 hours without waking & but seldom more at a time—

After dinner today H.M^y slept sound for about an hour in his Chair, a Practice very common to Him when in health, & happen'd almost daily after exercise, but since his present disorder has begun He has not taken such Naps above once or twice before this time—

Monday Jan^y 12th

His Majesty had but an indifferent Night— At intervals He slept about three hours, & when awake He talked as usual. When He got up this Morning He was high & rather inclined to be quarelsome— He expected his Airing which had been promised, made his arrangements in consequence, & talked with his Pages where He meant to go viz to see Lady Pembroke. He filled his Pockets strangely. In them He had two or three pair of Stockings, a Couple of Nightcaps, & a pair of Drawers. In his Breeches Pocket He had a pack of Cards & some Counters. He talked much of Lady Pembroke lately— Now at times He calls Her Esther, Sometimes Queen Elizabeth &c—

The Agitation of his Spirits & mind yesterday occasioned some fever, & his pulse rose to 120— When D^r Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys saw Him today the fever still remained &

his pulse was 106— This, added to Doctor Willis being in Town, & his being ticklish to manage, induced D^r John Willis to determine not to let Him go out this Morning— This disappointment H.M^y bore without flurry.

In the course of this day H.M^y talked much with those with Him respecting certain conditions which D^r John Willis had mentioned about his Airing. He said He would not object to go out in the Coach with Him and his Brother, if I was there—

With regret I have heard of a proposition made by The King to D^r John Willis, & acceded to by Him—viz: to permit his Access to The Library. If such permission could be of real Service to Him, the convenience of others, should not be put in the least competition with it, but I am sure I can foretell the consequences of this Indulgence, should it take place. He will tumble the Books about without being able to give the Attention of many minutes to read any. He will no longer remain satisfied with his present Apartments, He will always be trying to come out to Ours— Nor would this satisfy Him long. He would insist & expect to be allowed to go upstairs to The Queen's Apartment, & a refusal would most assuredly drive Him to extremities. He absolutely is not at present quiet or settled enough for this Indulgence—

The King throughout this Evening was high, easily piqued, & much inclined to be quarrelsome. He went to bed however quietly, promised to lay quiet, but said He would not sleep. His late hurries however, & his want of rest, fortunately have cheated Him; He soon dropped to sleep & slept remarkably well—

Tuesday Jan^y 13th

His Majesty is reported this Morning to have slept 7 hours & a half last Night without interruption, which is a larger portion of sleep than He has ever had in general when in health. He awoke however in his usual state of Mind after this refreshing Sleep. Through the day He continued hurried, quick & quarelsome. At times He amused

Himself with playing at Cards, at others with writing, & full of his usual conversation. Doctor Reynolds went in & sat with Him some time. He attempted to play at Piquet, but He was so rambling on other Subjects that He could not get through one Game. He gave to D^r Reynolds several Cards on which He had wrote— On two Knaves as follows :— on the one, “ Sir Richard Warren Bart First Physician to the King ”

“ Oh Dear Eliza ever love thy Prince
 “ Who had rather suffer death than leave Thee ”

On the other Knave He wrote thus :—

“ Sir George Baker Bar^t Second Physician to the King
 “ And First Physician to Charlotte late Queen of Great
 “ Britain ”

“ Oh Dear Eliza ever love thy Prince
 “ Who had rather suffer death than leave Thee.”

In this manner He wrote the Names & specified the Appointments of his several other Physicians, always putting at the bottom of the Cards the two lines above mentioned.

In the Evening He was very busy in obtaining leave from Doctor Willis to allow his Musicians to be sent for, & which at the time appeared to Me to be consented to by Him.* H.M^y talked also of having his Organ put up in his long Room. On other subjects He was eager and importunate, & very rapid in his manner of asking for what He wanted. Among others He asked to see M^r Smelt, & Doctor Willis readily told Him that He should— At this The King was much delighted & said, He had now got what He wanted,

* The musicians, it will be remembered, used to play each evening after dinner, but they were ordered away and all music was forbidden on November 5th. Miss Burney remarks on this circumstance : “ This was the last step to be expected, so fond as His Majesty is of his concert.”

that He would leave the Country & then in great joy He exclaimed " Victoria, Victoria "—

Such have been the inconsistent ramblings of this Evening strongly indicating the real disorder of his Mind & in which I lament that so little forward amendment appears at this time. Doctor Willis lately seems to Me to lose somewhat in his Authority over The King, in as much as that the King finds out the means how to work out more Indulgence from Him than He did, & then laughs at Him, telling those around that He kisses & makes a fool of Him—

I think the appearance of his Musicians would prove a great trial. If they are received & listen'd to with composure they may amuse & do Him good; but there is still much chance of their setting Him on ramblings—

In the course of this day H.M? had with Him a little Dog of the Queen's called Badine. He was much amused with it & said He liked it, because it was fond of Him & not of the Queen— Since this Unhappy Illness has been on Him He has in general spoke unkindly of the Queen, & nothing proves Him more unlike Himself than this. He said this Evening that He never liked Her that She had a bad temper, & that Her Children were afraid of Her. When such expressions are let loose, Alas He knows not well what He says—

Wednesday Jan^y 14th

The King slept about three hours at Intervals during the last Night. When awake He spoke rapidly, & inconsistently & laughed very much. In the morning when He got up He was much in the same state of mind as He was yesterday, & He was still hurried & quick. Becoming afterwards refractory recourse was had to a short confinement on his Couch in the Waiscoat. When released & during the Evening He was in high Spirits, Eager, & talkative. He continued to talk much of Lady Pembroke— who He now called by the New Name of Minerva. While playing at Piquet He distinguishes Her by the Queen of Hearts, kissing it whenever He saw it— A ridiculous incident

happen'd to The King this Evening when He was playing a Game of Picquet with D^r Willis. He had the King of Hearts himself & said "Oh if the Queen of Hearts would fall to The King." It so happen'd that Doctor Willis was obliged to play his Queen— The King was quite delighted, & He commented much afterwards on the circumstance & his good fortune.—

Sir Lucas Pepys who passed some time with the King this Evening told Him news of various kind. Among the rest He mentioned the Opposition which had been made in Martinico against the Edicts of Government for some Imposts, & He added that they seem'd to have learnt their lesson from their neighbours the Americans— The King rejoiced at this Account, said He was very glad of it, & then animatedly added that He was become an Englishman again. This seem'd to be on his recollection, that He had in some former conversations, since his illness, given them up, declaring his intention of retiring to Hanover—

H.M^y continued this Evening to speak very kindly of Lord North, & said He was the Man He loved best in the World—

This Morning The Chancellor came to Kew, & saw the Queen.

Thursday Jan^y 15th

After four hours & a half sleep during the last Night, His Majesty in the Morning was so little calm that a temporary coercion was thought necessary— After a short time He was released from it, but He continued high & agitated afterwards—

After Breakfast I was surprised with a Message to Me from The Queen by Lady Harcourt, to order Me to get The King's Carriage & his Attendants ready as it was intended that H:M^y should take an Airing this Morning—

Well knowing as I did the very unsettled state in which He still was, & how turbulent He had been within a very few hours, I own I was greatly surprised at the Message I had just received— After I had given the necessary Orders

in consequence The Queen sent for Me— It was to ask Me to which Door it would be most adviseable that The King's Carriage should come, whether to that in The Garden front, or to the usual front Door of The House, & to desire Me to come & let Her know when all was ready & decided on— As I went from the Queen's Apartment I met Doctor Willis, who informed Me That He and his Son M^r Tho^s Willis would be of my Party in the Coach to attend the King in his Airing. I replied by saying that He must judge both as to the proper Persons to go, & also as to the times when it was proper H:M^y should go, but I freely owned to Him, that I thought this no trifling experiment & I hoped The King would be composed & not expose Himself on the trial. I then stated to Him the very particular direction I had received from the Prince of Wales on a former occasion, viz on the King's removal from Windsor to Kew, to endeavour by every possible means, to prevent His exposing Himself on the Road—

On this D^r Willis told Me He intended H:M^y should go to Richmond Park as the most private place within reach, & that The King Himself had wished it. I asked D^r Willis if He was ignorant why the King wished to go there, & if He had not discover'd the drift of this Wish. The Doctor seem'd not to be in the Secret, on which I hinted to Him that the King by going there, was certainly not without the hope of going to Lady Pembroke's & that the probability was, when He came near that place He would on a refusal not be well pleased & the chances were He would become turbulent— Doctor Willis heard my conjecture with surprise, but not thinking light of it He told Me He would go & sound Him upon it. He accordingly went into The King's Apartment, & He found the King anxious about his dress. D^r Willis told Him his dress was very good for an Airing. The King said He must have his white Breeches. D^r Willis told Him the blue ones He had on would do very well— He answer'd “ You do not know where I am going,” & then came out the whole plan, exactly as I had mentioned it to Doctor Willis. On his objecting the King became angry &

violent to such degree, that in a few minutes recourse was had to restraint & He was confined on his Couch, where He continued for some time, abusive and angry.

Thus has the second ill-judged attempt to take the King out failed, & fortunately has it been put off in time. When such propositions are started in periods of so much irritation, there must always be great risk— If the King had gone out this Morning in the humour He was, & with the Intentions He had when He was setting out, it is most certain the expedition would have ended in confusion, & He probably would have been so violent as to have render'd it impossible to prevent his exposing Himself, besides, in the struggle which was so likely to have happen'd in the Carriage, He might have been hurt—

During the height of the King's bustle on this occasion M^r Pitt arrived at Kew. He did not come into My room, but He saw the Queen with whom He staid some time; After which He saw D^r Willis, & then He returned to Town without having seen any other Persons—

H.M. was released from his Confinement & the Shutters of his Room Windows were open'd before his Dining hour. In the Evening He saw D^r Gisborne with whom He played at Cards & He sung Catches with D^r Willis & his Son D^r John Willis—In the selection was “Hark the bonny bonny Christchurch Bells.” The Pang which attached to the occasion took from the pleasure of listening to D^r John Willis's fine Voice, & which is well adapted to such music—

H. M^y was in wild laughing spirits all this Evening, Good humoured, but much deranged—

How melancholy & afflicting are these turns, & how many & how varied have those been, of this day—

The hurries of the day subsided at Night & He went quietly to bed soon after 10 o'Clock—

Friday Jan^y 16th

H.M^y had four hours & a half sleep in the Night—About five o'Clock in the Morning He begun to be disturbed & He became Noisy in his bed, & his turbulence

having increased He was confined— While making my Morning enquiries I found Him very angry & abusive to those with Him, and at whom He was swearing much. Doctor Warren was here this Morning, but did not go into the King's Apartment & I was informed that He had been desired not to go in, but by whom I never heard.

On returning to The Antiroom about 11 o'Clock, sorry was I to find that The King's violence was not abated. He now continued angry & abusive as before, & by what I heard of it Doctor Willis came in for his full share.

From this disturbed neighbourhood I retired to the Library where I remained until near two o'Clock. Col! Manners who had come from Town this Morning to make his enquiries, was still here at this hour, & I had now from Him the first intimation that The Queen and Two of the Princesses were then actually with the King in his Apartment. Never was information more unexpected, than this was to Me at this time— I knew that at eleven o'Clock H.M.^y had been most violent & abusive, & that both in the early, as well as in the latter, part of the Morning He had been speaking improperly of The Queen— Very soon after Colonel Manners had given Me the above Intelligence, P.^{ss} Elizabeth having been sent for, repaired also to the King's Apartment—

When I went into The Pages Room (The Antiroom) I found that The Queen & The Princesses had been in about an hour, & I learnt also that this Visit originated in the King's having sent for, and received from the Queen, a letter from Prince Adolphus.* When the King received this letter, He asked D^r Willis why the Queen could not have come in with it Herself, Upon this D^r Willis agreed to the suggestion, & the Interview took place.

At the time this Visit took place there was only D^r Willis & his two Sons in the Room— The report they made on coming out was that The King had behaved with the greatest propriety & affection to the whole Party, & that the Queen by the King's desire had played a Game at Piquet— We

* At the University of Göttingen.

were informed also that German on this occasion was but little introduced into the conversation. Doctor Willis likewise reported that there had not been the least difficulty in separating & getting away, & He observed that The King had not, at parting, stipulated for another Visit.

I was doomed not to be long cheered with this Welcome report of what had passed at this Interesting Interview. Another Edition of the same history immediately succeeded, & which recorded that very soon after the Queen & P^{ss} had retired The King began to tell one of his Pages what had occurred at the late Interview. He told Him that the Queen had consented that Lady Pembroke should come to Him, & that this He had promised before his Daughters. He then begun immediate preparation to go to Windsor, & packed up a few things. Coming out suddenly into the next Room He there saw Cox, one of the Pages' Men, mending the fire, to whom He mentioned that He was going to Windsor that Night, that He had intended that He (Cox) should have staid behind, but that He now decided that He was to go, & added that Burton, another Pages' Man, was already gone there.

After this Interview Colonel Manners went to Town after He had seen Doctor Willis— He was soon after followed by Colonel Digby who had also arrived this morning from Town. On his return He met Me on Kew Green, where I was taking My Walk, & He informed Me, that Doctor Willis had been much pleased with the Visit, & that The Queen had mentioned to Him the conversation which had passed, & which He learnt had been quite proper—

I could not help observing to Colonel Digby, that It appeared to Me most extraordinary, that the King having been so wrong, so violent, & so abusive all the Morning till near Twelve o'Clock, should at One have received so properly a Person He had so much abused by improper behaviour of late, for an hour & a Quarter— Digby said, that great hopes should be cherished from Doctor Willis's great experience in such Cases, & that He certainly could

have nothing in View, but the King's recovery. On this, not desirous of taking from Him one gleam of cheering hope, I only remarked in reply, that if this was Doctor Willis's only View, his line was simple.

In the Evening The King was reported to be quiet, but at times very touchy. Dr Willis told Me, that His Majesty had been enquiring for Me so much, that He thought He must ask Me to go in. I accordingly accompanied Him into the Apartment, where I found Him by the fireside, feeding Badine the Queen's little Dog, & which He had decorated with a broad Blue Ribbon tied round its neck. Upon seeing Me, the King instantly came up to Me, & embraced Me with much affection, then taking Me by the Arm He walked with Me up & down the room, told Me of the Visit He had had, then shewed Me little Badine, & desired Me to remark the Colour of the Ribbon round its neck. Dr John Willis now came into the room, & He was soon followed by his Brother.

The King wished to go to his Library. Doctor Willis was anxious to put Him off, but He for some time anxiously persisted in the Wish; Finding however that He could not obtain this permission He desired Me to go & look for Paley's Philosophy, in which He told Me I should find, that tho' the Law said that Man might have but one Wife, yet, that Nature allowed more—

About this time Mr Battiscombe The King's Apothecary, entered the Room, & He addressed his conversation to us both, & in a very hurried manner— He intimated to Me, that it was his Intention to ride Otho' (one of his Hunters) tomorrow, Asked Me if I had my hunting Coat with Me. He then told Me that Sunday was The Queen's Birthday—ordered Me to write to The Duke of Montagu, & to assemble the Bishops at Windsor—&c. Mr Battiscombe had at this time his share of memorandums & commissions from Him for Windsor— Dr John Willis observing that his wants & hurries were rapidly increasing, told Me in his hearing that I was wanted in the next room, on which I rose from My Chair to go away. The King said I was going very soon,

then turning round to Me He added " If then you are to go God bless you," & He kissed Me—

During this Visit which was a short one of about a Quarter of an hour, H:M. was to me as usual, gracious & kind, but alas He was but good humouredly deranged. Not a sentence scarce, did He speak to Me this Evening like Himself in his moments of sound reason—

He is at times, & probably oftener than He appears to be, sensible of his unhappy situation— A very strong & very affecting indication of this appeared this Morning— An emetic had been given to Him in his Draught— After He had been very sick with it, He said He had been taken in with it, but He beleived it was for his good— Then kneeling on his Chair He prayed to God & said, "*That He had left undone those things which He ought to have done, & done those things which He ought not to have done, & He prayed that God would be pleased either to restore Him to his Senses, or permit that He might die directly.*"

What could be more deeply interesting than his pious direction of a transient gleam of reason, from our Dear Afflicted King—

Saturday Jan.^y 17th

His Majesty passed a very restless Night, He slept very little, if at all, during the whole Night & it became necessary to put Him under coercion in his Bed— In this state He was on Sir George Baker's arrival— Becoming calm afterwards He got up between twelve & one o'Clock.

Sir Joseph Banks came to Kew this Morning, & after his walk in Kew Gardens where He had been to look at The King's Flock of Sheep He saw D^r Willis— He had received from Me previous to this, the true Account of the present state of the Kings health, & which tallied with the public Bulletin of the Morning, but on seeing D^r Willis, He very properly again enquired of Him as the Fountain head. Doctor Willis on Sir Joseph's asking how the King was, without any preface replied " He is charmingly, & is now as Mild as Milk " He then added, that M^r Brawn

one of the King's Pages had just reported to Him, that He had never yet seen Him so sensible as He was at present.

Sir Joseph Banks went away rejoiced at this good news, & it spread rapidly on the road— He met & communicated it to Lord Hopetown who meeting M^r Dundas congratulated Him on the good news from Kew, which He said he had just heard from Sir Joseph Banks, & who received it from D^r Willis. This M^r Dundas on his arrival to his attendance communicated to us. Thus fly our histories from hence & thus are they dispersed—

This Morning Colonel Goldsworthy came to Kew, and He saw the Queen directly, & afterwards I saw Him, when He enquired of Me how all was going on I gave Him a true statement of exciting facts— After we had parted, Colonel Manners, in a bustle, just looked into the Library where I had been the whole Morning— Asking Me how I did He said that He had received the good news, but as He was in a great hurry He could not stop to speak a word to Me. He thus left Me, & scampered away to Town with the good Tidings He had collected in his own beat from hence—

All this took place between half past twelve & Two o'Clock, & The King only got up at the former hour—

Whatever risks there may be in general, from collecting partial Accounts from sudden appearances, still they may sometimes in the sequel, appear warranted from the beginning, by the favorable Turns which they may eventually take afterwards on a sudden— Throughout this long & severe illness the suddenness of opposite changes have been frequent & most remarkable, & much disappointment has followed from the over-impatience of spreading these transient reports of confirmed Amendment, when in fact, all trembled on an awful balance. Comparing the Kings situation during the last night, & the earlier part of this Morning, with what it was reported in the Evening, a more sudden contrast has not appeared— The Accounts detailed throughout this day by The Doctors Willis have made this the best day, that they have seen since they came to Kew,—His Majestys Pages, Brawn & Compton,

who saw most of H.M? this day, confirm, that his behaviour has been more calm & proper, & his manner more like his natural one than they have yet seen— Their better acquaintance with that manner, & their correct characters I own, encourage Me to pay more attention to their report than I could even, to that from D^r Willis—

This Evening after dinner, Doctor Willis left our table & went up stairs for The Queen, who came down directly to the King's Apartment without his having had any previous notice of such Visit. The first intimation I had of it was from being called out of the Dining Room by Lady Harcourt, who in the Passage told Me that the Queen desired I would attend in the Antiroom next to The Kings Apartment, to prevent any improper people being there, & also to prevent any Listening. The Queen staid with the King an hour & Ten Minutes— When She came out She appeared cheerful. Doctor Willis's report of this Interview was that the King had behaved with much affection & Propriety that She had played at Cards (Picquet) with Him, & that not one improper word has escaped. Nobody was in the Kings Apartment during this Interview but Doctor Willis & his Two Sons.

Sir Lucas Pepys who had been with The King before dinner this day & who likewise after the Queen went away, staid some time with Him, told Doctor Willis, that He had never yet seen H.M? so well as this day. I have regretted that I had myself so little opportunity this day of making my own observations on all the good I have heard, & which I am inclined to beleive. I never want above a few Minutes opportunity, to regulate My opinions as to the Kings natural state of Mind, or the reverse—

I entertain at this time an additional hope of a real amendment from a quiet pulse of 74—which He had when He went to bed this Night, & in calm good humour. This probably may ensure Him a good Nights rest, which is much wanted from having been lately much exhausted for want of Sleep. He dozed over Gray's Elegy, which He had been reading, just before He went to Bed.

Sunday Jan^y 18th (The Queen's Birthday)

After a quiet Night of seven hours sound sleep, the flattering hopes, which Doctor Willis's report so suddenly & so widely spread around yesterday, entirely vanished this Morning, & to use the Doctor's expression to General Lascelles "The King was never more disturbed in his life." He continued in this state during the Morning and at times He became violent— He struck one of Willis's Men, Took up a Chair to throw at another, &c &c—

The King in the course of this Morning expressed a Wish to see the Queen & the Princesses— He sent to The Princess Royal a Sermon published for the use of some Hospital by The Rev^d M^r Willis—& He wrote the following address in the Title Page "To My Ever Dear Daughter Matilda, Governess to Her three Younger Sisters"— He sent out also the same Sermon with an inconsistent address in the Title Page to Lady Harcourt, & another to Lord Harcourt equally incoherent— During the disturbances of this Morning the Waiscoat was brought in and Shewn— but it was not put on—

This day The Prince of Wales & The Duke of York paid a visit to The Queen—

In the Evening Doctor Willis, went for the Queen who with The three Eldest Princesses saw the King in his Apartment & staid with Him an hour— Besides these, none were in the room but Doctor Willis & his Two Sons. Doctor Willis reported to us that the Visit had gone off well, but observed, not equally as well as it had the Night before—

The King proposed catch singing. The Queen Pss. Augusta & Princess Elizabeth were pressed to take part, & Doctor Willis was obliged to join. There was more difficulty on parting this Evening than yesterday. At the Door the King called for The Princess Royal's Page (Papendick) & orderd Him to light Her— He asked The Queen if He might not see all his Family as it was *

* Her birthday was May 19th according to Burke's Peerage, yet Madame D'Arbly refers to this same date (Jan. 18th) as the Queen's Birthday.

her Birthday. This request was waved, & He did not fly out at the refusal.

As upon a former occasion, later reports of this Interview clashed with those which D^r Willis had mentioned of it. From what The King related afterwards to his Pages of the Conversation, much wrong appeared to have been mixed with it, & during the Evening He continued to talk to Them, & likewise to D^r Gisborne very inconsistently.—It is most singular that on these late Visits The King should in one Quarter be reported to conduct Himself with so much propriety, & that after accounts, should report so much abuse & slight in these conversations respecting The Queen, on the Authority of The Kings statement to his Pages—

These are sad features, in a melancholy Picture—

IV. THE KING IMPROVES

Monday Jan^y 19th

The King past a restless Night & with only an hour & half's sleep, and this at Intervals— When up, He was touchey, & particularly with D^r John Willis, who He told to get out of the room— Doctor John upon this, threaten'd Him if He continued to behave so improperly—

I had intention of riding to Town this Morning, but previous to my making My decision, I asked Doctor John Willis if He thought H.M^y would either walk, or go out this day. He answer'd that He thought not, but on recollection He said, it would do Him good to go out if possible, as the day was so fine—

I afterwards met Lady Harcourt who informed Me that the King was to go out to take a Walk. I observed to Her that the day was very fine, but that I had very lately understood from D^r John Willis, that his going out was by no means so certain. On this Lady Harcourt told Me that Doctor Willis had that moment informed her, that He was to go out. I bowed to this authority, & said I should be ready at a moment whenever called upon.

After Breakfast according to My usual Custom I retired to the Library, there to wait the Summons of the day.

I was summon'd about one o'Clock by a Visitor in the next room— It was Sir William Faucett*— He came to make enquiries of H.M^{ys} health— I shewed Him the Bulletin of the day, after reading it He asked Me if the favorable Accounts of Saturday remained to this time. I

* Major-General Sir William Faucett, K.B., was Adjutant-General at Head-quarters, Colonel of the 15th Regiment of Foot, and Governor of Gravesend.

told Him, that as usual there had been ups & downs—& that at present there were thoughts of the King's walking out this morning. After this Sir William enquired for Doctor Willis, whom He said He did not know, but was desirous of delivering Compliments to Him from Lady Faucett. I told Him I would go out & look for Doctor Willis. I found Him,—& it was then that I first learnt from Him, that The King was just that moment gone out a walking, & that He had not called on Me to attend Him, as He thought He might have schemes to propose to Me in his walks. I introduced Doctor Willis to Sir William Faucett, who learnt from Him that The King was then taking his Walk. Sir William now mentioned to Doctor Willis the great satisfaction which the People in Town had experienced from the very favorable Accounts of last Saturday. Doctor Willis replied that it had been an uncommon good day, & that He had no doubt but what this Evening would prove as good a one— “He thought so”—After this Sir William took his leave & returned to Town, & I came back to General Gordon whom I had left in the Library & I brought with Me Dr Willis to Him, who, after a short Visit, left us.

As the day was very fine, I proposed to General Gordon that We should sit close to the House, rather than to sit longer in the Library— This met his Wishes as well as mine & we walked before The Green House, keeping a good look out towards Kew Gardens for the King— At length I espied Doctor John Willis returning, & soon after I saw a Cluster of People following. These stopped behind some Shrubs, which for some little time intercepted Them from My View, until they moved on. As they advanced I thought that they were holding the King as they all walked so close together, but on a nearer approach great was my Astonishment when I saw The King extended on his back, & thus carried upon the Shoulders of some of the Attendants. As soon as He was brought to his Apartment He asked to be allowed to sitt down to play at Cards, but He was carried directly to the Couch & there confined

in the Waiscoat. From the details I collected afterwards it seems that on his first going out H.M^y made some hesitation. This occur'd at the little Garden Gate, leading out of Kew Gardens into Richmond Gardens. He there made a halt & said If He did not go there He would not walk— Upon this Doctor John Willis with firmness told Him He must walk, & where they chose. The King hesitated, but the Party being firm, He at last, suddenly gave way, & walked on saying “To enjoy is to obey”— After this He continued his Walk & got as far as the Pagoda, up to which He went, & when there, was desirous to go up it— To divert Him from this, He was told they had not got the Key, upon which He told them that the Key of the House would open it. Spicer, one of D^r Willis's Men, who heard this conversation answer'd that He had opened the House Door to let H.M^y out, & that He had left the Key in the Door. All was now settling quickly when one of the Pages incautiously produced the Key. The King got hold of it, but it was immediately but not easily taken from Him by M^r Tho^s Willis. On this He said He would go no further. He was desired, & then told, that He must walk on. To prevent this He sat down & afterwards lay extended on the grass, from whence on his continued refusal to get up & walk, He was taken up by force, & carried home about a mile on his Attendants' Shoulders—

When H.M^y found that He was unable to resist He said it was pleasanter to be carried than to walk, & that He liked it vastly. Whatever might have been his real opinion as to this change, He was thus brought home. Thus has ended this Morning's Walk, the event of which reminds Me of the fortunate escape we lately had from a probable adventure had H.M^y gone out in the Coach the day which was last Intended—

I have also got a lesson this day, how far the Opinions of even the most intelligent Attendants now about his Person may be trusted to at all times—

M^r Compton as zealous & sensible a Page as any

amongst Them, I saw coming from The King's Apartment about an hour before the King begun his Walk I asked how He was, He said He was quiet, but that He was talking quite incoherently, but He added, He was sure that would not prevent his walking as quietly as at any time—

M^r Brawn, another of the Pages, to whose general Intelligence & correctness particular attention was due, said He was sure H.M^y would walk as quietly as possible, & that He should have no scruple to go out with Him alone. The event has proved how much they have been mistaken, H.M^{ys} return having given full exertion to seven Persons who had attended Him in this walk—viz Doctor Willis's Two Sons, Two of H.M^{ys} Pages, & Three of D^r Willis's Men.

After H.M^{ys} return He passed some hours on his Couch under melancholy coercion, & during which time He was very outrageous— Swore & was very abusive to those around Him, at times He lay in more composure— Then sung, Afterwards hollowed, & put Himself in great agitation, & which brought on much perspiration—

He was put to bed about eight o'Clock— At which time He was in a more composed state, but not soften'd— He fell asleep soon after, but woke after two hours sleep—

Tuesday Jan^y 20th

This Morning when I made my enquiries, The Pages reported that H.M^y had not had altogether during the Night above three hours & half of Sleep & of which were two, before 11 o'Clock at Night— During the intervals He talked incoherently & continued much disturbed, & He was not calm after He got up this Morning.

When Doctor Warren went into his Apartment The Rev^d M^r Willis was with Him & whom He abused very much—then opening his Waiscoat He shew'd the Strait Waiscoat under it to D^r Warren & pulling down the long sleeves He told Him, He might tell his Situation to all the World—

Afterwards becoming more calm, He played at Picquet

with D^r Willis, & about one o'Clock He came from his apartment, attended, & walked up & down the gravel walk in front of the House for some time, & afterwards his walk was extended to the Botanic Garden— When this Walk was first proposed to Him, He demurred, unless He was allowed to go to Windsor, but upon the door of his Apartment being left open, & Doctor Willis going into the Garden He soon followed. When He first went out He was attended by The Three Willis's in sight of the Windows & several Attendants were at hand— I had an opportunity of observing Him from a small distance, all the while He remained in front of the House. H.M^y looked up frequently, & wistfully to the Windows in hopes of seeing his Family, to whom He now & then called. At this time He appeared to be walking with composure and quiet— He called much for M^{rs} Schwellenburg, who at last upon D^r John Willis saying aloud, that if She was in her room She might look out, appeared at Her Window in the upper part of the House, & the King spoke to Her— While H.M^y was thus walking Doctor John Willis & his Brother occasionally each took an arm, & in this manner He walked without any seeming objection on His part— I never until now have seen such familiarity, & it had to Me a peculiar appearance to see The King making one of the Group—

When He left the front of the House to go to the Exotic Garden, The Pages & D^r Willis's Men joined & remained with Him until his return to The House— He made some hesitation at the front Door, at which He wished to enter, but He soon gave up this point & went to the Door leading into his own Apartment.

After his Walk He was calm at first but soon after He became somewhat more irritable, & He was impatient to see Princess Augusta. In the Evening He walked about his room & was considerably hurried. Observing which, one of D^r Willis's Men desired Him to keep quiet & sit down. He retired to a corner of the room & took a book, but He still continued fractious & very irritable. In these hurried moments He struck Spicer, one of D^r Willis's Men.

Sir Lucas Pepys went into the Apartment this Evening— He found H.M.^y very deranged, his looks wild, & his conversation turned on the usual incoherent topics— He was full of Strategem & project, & among others He told Sir Lucas that He should contrive to escape from Doctor Willis.

At times throughout his Illness He has shewn much cunning & lately He has often mentioned “his Party,” out of those who are around Him, & with which He menaces any who offer to direct Him. I am not without My Suspicion that his uniform kindness towards Me, may not include Me in the List of his Party,—& in that event, under his delusion that He may attempt some point, encouraged by his dependance on My Assistance—

This day Colonel Digby came from Town, & brought Us the numbers on the division in the House of Commons last night, & by which the Household was placed under the care & superintendence of Her Majesty— *

When I was in The Library dispatching the Morning Bulletins for St. James’s, I heard Doctor Willis in loud political conversation in the next room— It was so loud, that I heard part of it, & found that He had become so animated on the result of the Question of last night in the House of Commons, that He declared He would never hereafter give a Vote in Lincolnshire to any one, however dear to Him, who had voted against the Question of last night.

Wednesday Janry. 21st.

The King had eight hours & half continued sleep last night, yet He was not calm this Morning— He was irrit-

* This was Pitt’s plan of Regency, which arranged that the care of the King and of the Royal Household should be vested in the Queen, while the office of Regent, with certain limitations, should be granted to the Prince of Wales. The opposition headed by Fox violently opposed the bill, maintaining that the office of Regent was the Prince’s by right, and could be subject to no limitations. The contest over the Bill, which passed the House of Commons on Feb. 12th, 1789, started on Dec. 10th. On Feb. 17th, however, the King was sufficiently well to see the Chancellor.

able throughout the day, which being an unfavorable one, prevented the chance of his going out—

In the Evening I saw H: My. without his seeing Me, & had good opportunity of observing his manner, & attending to his conversation. He was in good humour but much hurried. He was playing at Cards with Dr. Gisborne, but He did not seem to settle to his Game. At one time it was interrupted by his taking out a Sermon, then a Prayer Book from the Drawer, then to Cards again & so on— He rejoiced at the Queen of Hearts falling to The King, kissing it, & indicating the same ill directed turn of things which He has had but too long upon this Subject.

On the whole, tho' the general turn of his behaviour has throughout the day been good natured Hurry, yet every now & then He flew out impetuously, abusing then Mr. Willis very much & whom He called a Rascal— Mr. Willis on this gave the King a very strong reproof— He felt it & immediately softening He told Him “ He should now have his friendship again.”

Sir George Baker remarked to Me this Morning that throughout this Attack He had observed that whenever the King had a good night, that almost invariably He had become high & irritable afterwards—

Thursday Janry. 22d.

The last night has been reported as having been a very indifferent one— H: My. had about two hours and a half sleep altogether— When awake He was disturbed He then spoke incessantly, angrily, & loudly— At this time He was talking to Himself, for He was now in peace with those who were sitting up with Him— Much of his Abuse was directed where it would not have been, had He been well— When He got up He remained high— While I was making My Morning's enquiries He was loud in Song, but throughout the earlier part of the day, nothing particular occur'd. In the evening however He became cross & untractable, And at length so unmanageable, that recourse was had to The Waiscoat. Before this extremity

was resorted to He had struck one of the Pages & one of Dr. Willis's men.

Under confinement H. My. became still more outrageous & abusive. Dr. Willis coming into the room He was particularly abusive to Him; order'd Him out of his Sight, & to get out of his House. He wished they would kill Him, & addressing Himself to Doctor Willis He said, that He was not afraid of death, but that He was afraid of Him.

After much noise & turbulence, He became more composed towards his bed time, & He was then released from coercion. He went to bed, promising to endeavour to go to sleep, & to remain quiet—

Friday Janry. 23d.

During the last Night the King slept five hours and a half, but on rising this Morning He shew'd a tendency to be unsettled. A walk was under consideration for Him, but when proposed, He did not chuse to go out, unless He was allowed to go where He pleased. Thus for a time his going out became uncertain, but about half past twelve o'Clock He begun his Walk in the Garden front of the House, but He did not remain out above Ten minutes.

The Queen saw Him from the Window, & She afterwards came down & joined Him upon the Walk— He returned to his Room attended by the Queen, who staid with Him near an hour and saw Him dine. He was reported to Us as having behaved properly at this Interview to Her, but talking inconsistently tho' kindly. He told Her what arrangements He had made for Her at Windsor, & explained what Apartments She was to have. Some time after The Queen had retired from his Apartments He was busy in making preparations for going to Windsor, & asked if the Carriage was ready. Mr. Willis to whom this was addressed told Him that no carriage was ready, & that He was not to go. The King received this Answer without flying out at all.

Sir Lucas Pepys afterwards went in & conversed with

H. My. some time— On coming out his report to Us was that He had found Him very much deranged in his ideas this day.

In the evening the King amused Himself, in *arranging a Regency*. Who puts these kind of thoughts in his Head I cannot conceive— The Arrangement He now had in View was a Joint Regency, at the head of which was to be the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Chancellor, & the President of the Council assisted by The Prince of Wales, The Duke of York & The Privy Council who were to be made efficient. This was his occupation at one time of the day, while at others He wrote promissory Notes for various annuities— & one He gave to Spicer, one of Dr. Willis's men—

This Evening He wanted very much to be allowed to go up Stairs to return The Queen's Visit & importuned Dr. Willis very much to give Him leave. This He declined & afterwards left the room. After some time The King sent for Dr. Willis again on the same subject & on which He continued to press anxiously. Doctor Willis appeared to be embarrassed, & in consequence declined going to the King Himself but sent his Son Mr. Willis. H. My. had at this time filled his pockets with Books & Cards, a strange fancy, but which He always adopts whenever any scheme of moving occupies Him—

Mr. Willis told Him He could not be allowed to pay a Visit to the Queen now, that as He had been indulged with seeing Her this Morning, He must not now press More to see Her again this day. The King heard this decision calmly, & readily giving up the idea He sat down to write.

The subject of controul has I find been much argued before the Committee. Alluding to this, Dr. Willis gave to General Lascelles & Myself the following instance of the Influence to be obtained over People in this Unhappy situation, by those who have the care of Them; He once had some Patients from Doctor Munro, who some years after they had been dismissed from his care, had returns of their Malady, & came under his directions. With these

He had no trouble at all, as they fell into his proceedings immediately, having been already "broke in, as Horses in a menage" as his expression was—

Saturday Jan.ry 24th.

The Bulletin of this morning announced That The King had passed yesterday quietly, that He had 4 hours sleep in the night & that He was not quiet this Morning.

Before Dr. Warren went away He came into the Library where at that time was Dr. John Willis & Myself— He asked Dr. John Willis if the Queen had ordered that the King should have no prayer book— that He had told Him so, & that He wished to have one. Dr. John Willis replied that He knew of no such thing, & that He had his prayer book in the room with Him. By this Dr. Warren found that there was nothing more in this, than conversation, but He added that H. My. had been arranging a Regency preparatory to his going to Hanover— Soon after this Lady Charlotte Finch came to the Library Door to get a sight of the Morning Bulletin from General Lascelles, & which at this time I was dispatching for St. James's. Lady Charlotte Finch was introduced into the Library where She received & read the Bulletin. On perusing it She remarked that it mentioned, that The King was not quiet, & that Doctor Willis had said that He was.

Presently after Doctor Willis came into the Library & commented on the Bulletin & said to Lady Charlotte Finch & Us that they had mentioned that The King was not quiet, but that He was quite quiet & had been so in the Morning— To this nobody then in the room made the least reply—

In the course of this Morning came Lord Waldegrave Lord Ailesbury & Colonels Goldsworthy, Gwyn, & Manners. Colonel Gwyn not having been here since Dr. Willis came wished to See Him & his men. I proposed to Him & General Lascelles then in the room to accompany Me into 'The Pages' room where perhaps I might have an opportunity of shewing Them to Him. When We came

into the Pages Room, I saw Spicer one of Willis's men coming out of the Kings Apartment, with a patch on his Cheek. Thinking this was done in shaving, I jokingly as He passed Me, said "Why, Spicer you have shaved too high today" He replied "Sir I have had a bustle—" & He then informed Me that The King had been turbulent, & would do only what He chose—that upon being checked He struck Spicer in the face & cut his Cheek, & which attack had put Him under coercion where He then was. As I observed blood upon Spicers Cheek I said that it seemed to have bled a good deal, on which opening his Waiscoat He shewed Us much blood on his Waiscoat, but in good humour He added "We have made it up again, & He has promised Me more than He did yesterday"—

From what has been stated respecting the late Bulletin, the variations & reports which exist here will be seen. If Doctor Willis was convinced that the Bulletin of this Morning was not correct, & that it held out worse Accounts than the real state of H. Mys. health warranted, why was it sent from hence with his name signed to it, with those of the other Physicians?

The King did not remain long under coercion— The Chair in which He had now been confined was a new one made on purpose. It is a common chair placed upon a floor of its own, which prevents a Person from moving it, nor can it be thrown down as a common Chair might be. When it was first brought into the Room to be made use of, the Poor King is said to have eyed it with some degree of Awe.

Mr. Charles Hawkins saw the King this day & had a long conversation with Him. He afterwards expressed to Me his Surprise that He should have talked so much lately on Politics & Regencies, & wondered if this was by Accident, or if such topics had been introduced to Him by any Person. I certainly had made the same remark yesterday when I heard that His head was full of a Regency— The King abused Mr. Pitt much to Mr. Hawkins, & called Him a Boy; said He had wanted Him to step forward at the

close of Lord Lansdowne's Administration, but that He was afraid. He rambled afterwards on various other topics. He mentioned that He had seen the Queen & that He had informed Her of the preparations He had made respecting the Yacht which was to carry Them to Hanover. Then He talked of Himself, said He should not last long, that He was glad of it, for that He did not wish to live—

When Mr. Willis went to see the King after dinner, He came back & told Us that He was then remarkably calm & composed. Doctor Gisborne who went in afterwards made also good report of his composure—

In talking to Dr. Gisborne of a particular Person He told Him “that He was as mad as a March Hare.”

Throughout this evening Dr. Willis & his Sons continued good reports of Him till his bed time. He occupied Himself much during part of this evening with the Life of Handel, which Dr. Gisborne brought Him.

Sunday Janry. 25th.

The last Night proved a good one with six hours Sleep— In the Morning his Mind ran very much on going to Windsor, which it has done much of late. The Vicinity of Langley encourages this Wish not a little as it is connected with *Eliza*. He has often talked of this Place since these kind of ramblings have prevailed, & under the present Influence He intends purchasing it for Her—*

This Morning was fine, but at first The King did not chuse to avail Himself of the offer which Dr. Willis made to Him of taking a Walk— He would go no where but to Windsor. As He was in this Mood, Dr. Willis said He would not force Him to go, but that He might walk if He chose. Of late it has appeared to Me that H. My's. turbulence has made Dr. Willis & His Son rather more shy of going so frequently into his Apartment, as has hitherto

* From this it is evident that the King was by no means ignorant of what was happening outside the walls of Kew. Langley, one of the seats of the third Duke of Marlborough, father of the object of his misplaced affections, was in fact at this time for sale.

been their Custom to do, & that now He is left more to the Pages & to Willis's men than He used to be. Mr. Brawn one of his Pages had made the same remark.

After demurring some time, The King walked out, attended by Doctor Willis & his younger Son and one Page. The rest of the Attendants were kept behind at some distance— He walked towards the exotic Garden. When He came near Mr. Hayes's House which is seperated from this Garden by a Pale, He hollowed out for Mr. Hayes, then making a run He attempted to get over the Pales, but was prevented. Mr. Hayes was Preceptor to Prince Ernest, Prince Augustus & Prince Adolphus. H: M: after this, continued his Walk for about an hour & returned quietly to The House again. During part of this morning He amused Himself with writing.

The distribution of the Grenadiers of the Guards formed part of his occupations— He marked down the two tall Companies of Grenadiers belonging to the First Regiment of Guards for Colonel Stevens, & the two short Companies of Grenadiers of the same Regiment for the Duke of Gloucester's Son—* A Company of Grenadiers of the Coldstream Regt. of Guards under Coll. Morshead He directed to be drafted, & so on—

In the evening The King was allowed to take a second Walk in the Garden before the House; As this Walk was quite unexpected the Windows of our Dining Room and of the Library were left open— He came to Them and looked in, asked many questions, & in the Library He shewed Mr. Willis where several Books which He then named to Him, were. He called often for Me, & returned more than once to the Library Windows, in hopes of finding Me there.

On H. My's. return this evening Dr. Reynolds saw Him. He found Him in good humour but his ideas were much deranged— He shewed Him the new Chair of Coercion, which He called the Coronation Chair. He had put a Chair on each side of it & placed this new Chair at the top

* At this time only twelve years old.

of the Room in State. He talked much to Him on Political Subjects, & about the Prince of Wales's *Subjects*.

Doctor Willis, soon after Dr. Reynolds went into the Kings Apartment, returned to our Dining Room, where at this time was General Harcourt & Myself. Addressing Himself to Us He observed that New faces always set The King talking more than He should do, & made more than an oblique hint of his being angry that Doctor Reynolds had gone in, tho' it was by his own permission, for I heard it asked & given—

He remarked that the King was charmingly with Him & his Son before, but that now Reynolds had set Him a talking— “Ask Doctor Munro, or any one” said the Doctor, “if they would allow any to go to a Patient, but those under whose immediate care they were—” “No,” continued He, “they would not admit another Soul.” I could not help saying “What not their Relations Dr. Willis?” At first He answer'd eagerly, “No not any Body,” but recollecting the drift of my question as I suppose, He soon after added, “Now & then to see their Relations may be good, & must be used as a part of the cure—” His having so often admitted the Queen & the Princesses was what I alluded to, when I addressed this Question to Him—

At Night the King by his own request was put into a Warm Bath. Dr. Willis & Doctor Reynolds did not disapprove, only the former desired that it might not be deeper than his Middle as He sat down—

Monday Janry. 26th.

The King passed an indifferent Night, & had three hours and a half Sleep. During the Intervals He talked very much but not consistently— After He got up He was high & impatient. He had been promised last Night by Doctor Willis that He might put on his Boots & Leather breeches in the Morning. This set his Mind so much a rambling on Windsor & riding, that it was thought proper not to let Him have them.

This refusal, added to his not being in good humour, agitated Him a good deal & he became quite impatient & unmanageable. When Doctor Warren arrived He was so bad that He did not see Him. As his Violence & abuse continued, He was confined in his Chair in the Waiscoat & nobody but Dr. Willis was allowed to go into his Apartment in general throughout the day. About his Dinner time He was released by Dr. John Willis, but He was afterwards so violent & abusive to Him, that He was again put under coercion & remained so until near nine o'Clock at Night—After this He was a little more moderate & Dr. John Willis again went in, & after Him Sir Lucas Pepys, who found his ideas very much deranged, fluctuating & unconnected—The King told Him that “the late King of Spain was mad, but yet that He had his State around Him, & that No King but a King of England could be confined in a strait Waiscoat” He was full of schemes & said that He would give the Botanical Plants at Kew to Christchurch—said that He had order'd his Cream colour'd Horses* to be at Langley Broom tomorrow morning at nine o'Clock, with eight Servants in full Liveries—that He should take one Equerry with Him, & mount Conqueror which He had ordered to the Feild. He then seated Himself in the Chair of Coercion, which He called his Throne, & said that the first time He had seen Eliza, it was from it, over his left shoulder—Such were among the ramblings of his mind, after a very turbulent & unsteady day throughout.

About 10 o'Clock He went quietly to bed without difficulty & seem'd happy to get there.

Doctor Willis kept from the King's room most part of this day.

Tuesday Janry. 27th.

The King passed a very restless Night & with not more than one hour & a Quarter's sleep in the whole. In the

* The cream-coloured horses and their scarlet housings of velvet and morocco, which alas no longer lend colour and dignity to our royal processions, were brought over to this country by George I.

Morning when I came to make My usual enquiries, I found that Sir George Baker & Sir Lucas Pepys had seen the King, & they found He was disturbed & unquiet. While talking to one of the Pages I heard H.M. in loud & quick conversation, & upon another Page coming out from the room I learnt that He was very touchey, & at that time abusing Doctor Willis, who was recommending Him to give up the Absurd idea of going to Windsor, for that this proposition could not be allowed—

From hence I went into our Dining Room where I found Sir George Baker & Sir Lucas Pepys—I told Them I was very sorry to find the King had passed so bad a Night & that I much feared the day would not be good as it had begun high, & that I had just left the Antiroom where I heard the King talking very loud & in a hurried manner. Sir George Baker & Sir Lucas Pepys smiled, & both said, that Doctor Willis had told them since they had left the King, that He had become quite calm. Upon their saying so much I replied, that I found I had let the Cat out of the Bag, but that as it had escaped, all I could add to my narration was, that what I had told Them was perfectly true—

As General Harcourt was sent to Town this Morning by The Queen, when I had prepared the Morning's Bulletins for St. James's, I deliver'd them to Him for the Queen's inspection— He carried them up Stairs to Her accordingly, & in the mean time Lady Harcourt came into our breakfast room to make Her enquiries of the Physicians.

When Colonel Digby returned from the Queen He gave the Bulletins into Sir George Baker's hands, who instantly gave Them to Me, asking Me if there were any objections to them? I referr'd the Question to Colonel Digby, & exactly in the same words for Sir George Baker's Information, Digby, with a tone of surprise, answer'd "Objections"! On which I told Him that Sir George Baker wished to know before He set off for Town from Kew—Colonel Digby then said that there were none—

As all this passed before Lady Harcourt, I took Digby aside, & took notice of his surprise at my question, but



By permission of Lady Gunning

THE HON. CHARLES GREVILLE.

from the portrait by Romney

which I observed, was in fact, not Mine but Sir George Baker's in his own words, & that all it had meant was the common release the Physicians expected every morning before they took their departure; & I now mentioned to My Friend, that I now alluded to it again, that Lady Harcourt might know (should any thing hereafter occur respecting this Question) that I took myself no more credit for it, than my due—

I was this Morning taken by surprise by His Majesty, who unexpectedly came to walk before the House, e'er I had the least notice of such Intentions. I was at this time walking in front of the House Myself & alone, when I was called to by one of The Pages for the Key of Richmond Gardens, as He told Me it was wanted for the King. The King saw Me, & eagerly calling for "Greville" approached Me hastily. Perceiving that I was both seen & known, I advanced towards H. My. Mr. Willis was at this time with Him— The King locking My Arm in his, said I should walk with Him, & that He would not part with Me again during the day.

The first thing He proposed with earnestness to Me was "Remember your promise to be my Friend" He then asked Me What I would have. Would I have the Treasureship of the Household? Then recollecting Himself immediately He said "NO, That was your Brothers— One of you shall be Treasurer, the other Comptroller, Take your choice of these."

After this Spicer, one of Dr. Willis's men being near, (a Warwickshire Man,) He told Him to come to his Countryman pointing to Me— He then asked Him which He chose should be the Member for Warwick, Me or My Brother who He now called Charles, or Robert. The King decided We should both be the Members, adding, that We should not Vote, We were to be his Friends.

The Dear King was as usual, well intentioned & most kind to Me, but alas, He was indeed much hurried, & there was now much Wildness in his Countenance, & manner— As He was at this time very full of schemes, on seeing Me

Dr. Willis was desirous to get Me away, and therefore under pretence of getting another Key He sent Me for it & thus My retreat was effected—

The King now continued his Walk attended by Dr. Willis & Mr. Willis, two Pages, & two of his Men, & leave was given to his going into Richmond Gardens. Upon entering Them He wanted to go to the Terrace contrary to the plan which had been arranged with Him previous to his going to these Gardens— In this Intention He was restrained. On which He set off & ran as fast as He could, but was soon overtaken & stopped. This made Him angry, & He said He would not Walk. He then sat down, but He was soon raised from the ground, & returned attended by his Party to Kew Gardens where He walked some time very quietly, & chiefly engaged in conversation with Mr. Thos. Willis, tho' much in his usual style.

Throughout the rest of this day H. My. continued more calm than He had been of late; still He continued irritable & easily put out of Humour— He conversed in the evening good humouredly but his ideas incorrect, & wrong.

To what sudden fluctuations of good & bad, of calm & turbulence, does this Afflicting Illness doom our Interesting & unfortunate Patient!!—

Wednesday Janry. 28th.

This last Night the King slept seven hours, & He awoke quiet & composed— Dr. Willis & Dr. Gisborne saw Him in the Morning & found Him good humouredly deranged. From Observation long continued unhappily on this Melancholy case, I am now thoroughly convinced, that the great point on which the best opinion of its real circumstances can be formed, is by attending to the state of the Mind only, & not as many have hitherto done, by calculations from composed or turbulent days.

I have now seen so much of it, that I lay very little stress on quiet & unquiet days if the mind in each continues

deranged, but a quiet day is here called a good day & is beleived, & so meant to be beleived abroad, when the actual derangement is as great as ever, & of course the disorder still as unabated, as it has been at any period of its Influence.

This day is a day very much in point— The King is quiet & good humoured, but truly as much deranged, as at any time I have known, yet it is reported with Us by some, “that We are charmingly today, & as mild as Milk.”

This Morning The King told Dr. Willis, that He had a Trinity of his Own.—God,—The Revd. Mr. Willis, who as He had a Gown & Cassock approved a Woman,—and Eliza.

Can there be a more melancholy Instance of the very great derangement which actually exists at this time— I note it with sorrow & regret, only to mark the true existing state of his Mind, because very different Accounts are maintained from true ones, & from experience I know, how these are often made use of & commented on.

About the middle of this day Colonel Digby came to Me from The Queen to desire My Attendance in Her Majesty's Apartment— I found Her, & Dr. Willis in the room. Her My. told Me, that Doctor Willis had informed Her, that He had tried the experiment yesterday of keeping his own People principally in the King's Apartment, & that it had had a good effect, as He thought the Kings Pages, from his knowing more of them, set his Mind in more agitation & kept it more disturbed. She therefore desired I would inform the Pages from Her, that they were not to go into The King's Apartment without directions either from Doctor Willis or Doctor John Willis. In obeidience to Her Majesty's commands I immediately communicated Her directions to each Page seperately. They all seemed glad to receive explicit commands from The Queen & expressed their willingness to obey Them— Previous to this, some of the Pages had not thought Themselves authorized to obey a Verbal direction from Dr. Willis alone, as they had

witnessed scenes in which their assistance with that of Dr. Willis's Men had been essentially necessary, & they had thought themselves too responsible for the King's safety, to omit what they at times thought might be conducive to it— The order I had now brought to Them, they considered as coming from that Authority which they were ready cheerfully to obey—

The Channels of obtaining regular & correct information of the real State of His Majesty's health, have thus become much narrowed, & possibly they may be much impeded.

About Six o'Clock this Evening, The King being at this time with only one of Doctor Willis's men in his Apartment with Him, went into an Adjoining Apartment. At this time He was quiet & unruffled, neither had He been angry with this Man whose Name was Wynne;

On coming out, the King took an opportunity of seizing Him suddenly by his hair, dragging Him & beginning a scuffle— Wynne on this called out, & Mr. Brawn one of The Kings Pages being at hand in the next room went in & released Him, while another Page went to fetch another of Doctor Willis's Men.

Thus has the experiment, which was reported yesterday to have been attended by success, & which had produced the order of the Change in attendance on the King's Person, in a very early Instance proved its fallibility.

Had The Pages implicitly obey'd the Order which I transmitted to Them this Morning, for not going into the King's Apartment without a direction from Dr. Willis or Dr. John Willis, Wynne would have been in an awkward situation than that from which He had now been rescued by the prompt Interference of one of The Kings Pages. Notwithstanding all this, The King was reported to be very quiet—

Doctor Reynolds whose turn it was to be at Kew this evening, asked if He might go in & see the King, as Dr. Willis had said He was quiet— On this Dr. Willis taking Dr. Reynolds aside, told Him He had rather not, as seeing

Him might possibly agitate Him— Dr. Reynolds replied, that as He seem'd not to wish Him to see The King, He would not press the request—

I felt much surprised at the appearance of so much mystery, nor can I reconcile (myself) to the measure of keeping The Physicians, so much as is done, from the opportunity of making their personal observations— It is not necessary that their Visits should be long to form their opinions on the daily health of H:M: & as they are expected to prescribe, it is improper to do it without seeing Their Patient—

The proceedings of this day mark an evident & rapid move to New Authority—

At 11 o'Clock this night Dr. Willis returned to our Dining Room I asked Him if The King was gone to bed & how He was. He said that He was in bed, that He was quiet, but might easily be put into a Passion.

I find that He has been much discomposed on finding that the Pages were not in his Room as usual—

This Evening another Keeper, Brother to Spicer, was added to Dr. Willis's List, & He now arrived here—

Thursday Janry. 29th.

The King slept six hours & a half last night, & was as usual this Morning—

This does not exactly correspond with the Bulletin, that reports that the King passed yesterday *without irritation* & that He was calm this Morning. What occur'd respecting Wynne, shews the situation of yesterday, as to irritability. The latter part of the Bulletin stood so by accident. It was thus wrote by one of the Physicians & they were not at the pains to write the Bulletin over again to insert Dr. Willis's own words, which were that H:My. was as usual this Morning. The fact was He was quiet, but deranged talking of *Eliza* &c as usual.

This Morning H.My. took a Walk round Kew Gardens attended by The Two Doctor Willis's & Two Keepers. He is reported to have behaved well when out— On

passing the Library Windows He knocked at Them & called for Me, but I was not then in this room.

In the evening there was a threatening of a serious dispute with Dr. John Willis. He was angry that his Pages were kept from Him, but the rising storm was luckily dissipated. He has of late been much inclined at different times to be angry on this subject, & He has evidently shewn alarm at being attended by Keepers only.

His Mind runs much at present on making Parties & Friends : He has been writing promissory Orders &c to make Friends for Himself—

Sir Lucas Pepys saw H.My. this evening for some time. He found Him quiet, but good naturedly deranged, He talked to Him much of *Eliza*, complained that his Pages were withheld from Him, & that none but Dr. Willis's men were allowed to attend Him. He rambled on variety of Topics, & on these He spoke incoherently. He spoke of various Administrations, and asked Him about the Spanish Minister Del Campo.

He entrusted a negotiation to Sir Lucas Pepys with Del Campo, which is, the cession of Gibraltar to Spain, for Minorca— A proposition strongly indicating his deranged situation & expressive of a Wish, so different from what it would have been, had He been Himself.

Friday Janry. 30th.

The last night has been a very restless one, with between two & three hours sleep, as reported to Us. On making My usual Morning enquiries, Dr. John Willis was coming from the King's Apartment. I asked Him how H.My. was. He informed Me, that the night had not been a very good one, but that at present He was mild & quiet. This I own a little surprised Me, as I had just before been informed, that Spicer had been out for the Arquebusade Bottle, to put from it to his face & shin, having been struck by The King, who it seems had endeavored, when the shutters of his Windows were opening, to run into the next room to get to his Pages, but had been stopped by Spicer.

I afterwards asked Dr. Willis & The Revd. Mr. Willis, separately, how H.My. was, in order that I might know how far I could trust the Accounts received— Both these Gentlemen assured Me that The King was *very quiet*.

Seeing Mr. Battiscombe, The King's Apothecary, very soon after, I remarked to Him that I had just received three Reports, & naming from whence, That His Majesty was then quiet, but that these by no means tallied with another which I had received & which stated that Spicer had suffered in an angry scuffle. Mr. Battiscombe who knew the circumstance said "It was even so."

Dr. Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys saw the King before The Bulletin was made out this Morning. I learnt from Dr. Warren that He had found Him quiet, but in such state of Mind "that not one syllable of his conversation, could be mistaken by any the most sanguine for sense."

Dr. Willis had the King confined to his Chair this Morning for a short time, & gave Him a severe lecture on his improper conversation, Eliza &c; H.My. becoming more loud & impatient under this Lecture, Dr. Willis ordered a Handkerchief to be held before His mouth, & He then continued & finished his Lecture—

H.My. did not walk this Morning, but had an emetic given to Him—

Another New Keeper was introduced this day (Cox).

This evening at three o'Clock a Deputation from the House of Lords, & from The House of Commons, came to Kew with Their Addresses to The Queen.

From the House of Lords—Lord Waldegrave & Lord Ailesbury attended—

From The House of Commons The Honble. Mr. John Villiers,* Colonel Manners—Mr. Howard— & Lord Courtown.

The Queen on this occasion returned the following answer.

"My Duty & Gratitude to The King & the sense I

* 2nd son of the first Earl of Clarendon and elder brother of Mr. George Villiers mentioned on p. 19. He succeeded to the title later as third Earl.

must ever entertain of My great obligations to this country, will certainly engage My most earnest attention to the anxious & momentous Trust, intended to be reposed in Me by Parliament— It will be a great consolation to Me to receive the aid of a Council, of which I shall stand so much in need in the discharge of a Duty, wherein the Happiness of My future life, is indeed deeply interested, but which a higher object, the happiness of a Great, Loyal, and Affectionate People, render still more important.”

The Queen & Princesses were in readiness when The Deputation from the Houses of Parliament enter'd the Queens Apartment. Her Majesty as well as The Princesses were very much affected at this Ceremony.

This Evening Dr. Gisborne was with The King for some time. When He came out, this good Man seemed to be distressed. He told Me, that seeing H.My. now, always made Him melancholy. He found Him much deranged.

Before his bed time He was much alarmed, (as He had indeed been the preceding night) at finding Himself without his Pages. Poor Man He had taken it into his bewilder'd Head, that Willis's Men meant to murder Him, but turning to Mr. Willis, who was present at this time, He said, if He told Him that they had no such Intention, He would beleive Him. This Notion has of late much disturbed Him at times.

When Cox, The new Attendant on Him, was introduced to Him this day The King told Him, “ He seemed as if He had really lived with some good Family, & that He looked more like a Christian, than the rest about Him.”

Saturday Janry. 31st.

The King was reported this Morning to have had five hours & a half Sleep during the last Night. In the Morning He was quiet, but in his conversation He was not improved— At twelve o'Clock He walked out attended by Dr. Willis, his Two Sons, & their men. He walked with composure, & was out an hour— In the evening He had a second Walk for about the same time— On his return He came

to the Library Windows & call'd for Me, but He did not see Me—

This evening The Queen & Princess Mary were introduced into The King's Apartment by Dr. Willis. He played a game of Picquet with The Queen, after which He begun to talk of Handel, & read part of his life to Her— He then sung parts of some of the Chorus's, & commented upon their different advantages of Composition— He became afterwards jocose, in high spirits & laughing a good deal—

As He now appeared to be wandering a little more than He had at first, it was thought proper to end this Visit. It was proposed, but the King begged hard that He might play one other game at Picquet with The Queen. He did so, & during which, He laughed & amused Himself much— He called The Queen of Clubs Sir George Baker— The Knave of Spades Dr. Warren— Talked of his Friend Revel (Dr. Reynolds) & of "Daavid" Mr. Dundas— All this was more flight & hurry than was desirable, but on the whole He behaved as well as He has done at any time since his illness to The Queen— He was composed, and altogether less deranged than He has been for some time.

Sunday Febry. 1st.

H.My. enjoy'd six hours & half sleep during the last Night and passed it quietly— In the Morning He was calm, but the state of his Mind quite as usual—

He saw Dr. Warren, Dr. Reynolds, & Mr. Dundas in the Morning— Dr. Reynolds found Him quite as usual as to his conversation— Told Him that The Queen was mad, & under Dr. John Willis's care— To Mr. Dundas He said the same— With Dr. Warren He held an inconsistent conversation & talked of making The Chancellor a Duke but that He was to wear Quaker Colour'd Clothes— He told Him also that Dr. Willis had received a letter in French, but as He could not read it He had given it to Him to translate & added that it was a remedy

for Him as He was mad, & that the prescription was to open a Vein on the top of his head— That it had been sent to Dr. Willis, because He was no Physician.

Dr. Willis gave the following report to Lady Charlotte Finch this Morning— “ His Majesty has had a charming Night & is quite Mild this Morning.” The real state of the Kings health would certainly not have been collected by this report.

As this day has been very fine H.My. has walked out twice, In his first Walk He had nearly surprised Me in his Library as I had not received previous notice of his being out, but hearing his Voice I had just time to get out of sight, when He looked in at the Window for Me— I had been writing & having left the Paper on the Table He saw it & asked who had been writing there.

The King was out this day, altogether between three & four hours; He was quiet & orderly but talked incessantly.

In the evening He expressed a Wish to see the Queen & Pss. Sophia, On this Dr. Willis went to Her Majesty who came down immediately with Princess Sophia, He behaved with propriety, played at Picquet with the Queen & talked & laughed much. He desired Pss. Sophia to read part of Handel to Him. This Visit lasted about an hour.

There are now in the House nine attendants or Keepers— The new System now is, that there should always be three of these in H.Mys. room in the day time, in order that one may be spared to go messages & thus constantly leaving Two with Him. At night Two, & In the Ante-room one Page constantly. H.My. soon got familiar to these new faces, calls them by their names already, & for some of Them He finds likenesses— He has been amused with one of them who came on the recommendation of The Bishop of Salisbury (Dr. Douglas), having found out in Him a likeness to Colonel Conway.

Monday Febry. 2d.

The last night has been reported a good one, & that H: My. was quiet this Morning. He walked out twice

this day, & in his Two Walks He continued out about five hours. He accidentally saw in one of these Miss Burney who anxious to avoid Him ran away, but the King having perceived Her, She was called back— Her natural timidity render'd this an unwelcome invitation— She return'd however, & came back much frighten'd. The kindness with which She was received, & the composure which She saw, dissipated Her alarm, & She reported that The King had talked very collectedly, & more so, than She had any idea of— *

In the evening Dr. Willis brought The Queen, The Princess Royal, & Princess Augusta, to pay a Visit to the King in his Apartment— The Queen played at Picquet with Him— Pss. Augusta at his request read part of the Life of Handel to Him.

This Interview lasted an hour & a Quarter. On their retiring The King came with The Queen to The Door of the Antiroom & there He took his leave of Her.

On the whole, from all that I have been able to collect, this seems to have been among the very best days He has passed since He has been at Kew.

In the course of this day The Bishop of Worcester came to Kew, & saw the Queen— †

Dr. Gisborne did not see the King this Night—

* *A propos* of this interview with the King, Miss Burney says “This interview, and the circumstances belonging to it, excited general curiosity, and all the house watched for opportunities to beg a relation of it. . . .”

“I did what I could, however, to gratify the curiosity of Colonel Wellbred, which I never saw equally excited. I was passing him on the stairs, and he followed me, to say he had heard what had happened—I imagine from the Willises . . . He wanted to hear more particulars; I fancy the Willises had vaguely related some “Did he not” he cried “promise to—do something for you?” I only laughed, and answered “O yes! if you want anything, apply to me; now is my time”!

† Dr. Hurd, the King's favourite bishop and indeed one of his most intimate subjects.

Tuesday Febry 3d.

The King is Reported to have had six hours good sleep the last Night; Doctor Warren & Dr. Gisborne saw Him this Morning, when they found no great amendment in the turn of his Conversation. To Dr. Warren He mentioned the Visit He had had the preceding Evening & from the Queen, & Two Princesses, but spoke rather slightly of the former.

The remarkable event of this Morning has been, that Doctor Willis allowed the King to shave Himself— A similar Indulgence had been granted in an early part of this Illness, & since Dr. Willis acknowledged its risks, How He could now allow this, after He had thus reflected upon former risks, is Wonderful. Happily no unpleasant consequences resulted from this Indulgence.

H. My. Walked out, twice this day & is reported to have behaved sedately & quietly. From what I had an opportunity of observing Myself, his manner was rather hurried, & He was not thought altogether so calm as yesterday—

He has now become well accustomed to his new Attendants & He has begun with Them, as He has already done with others, to give or take away Pensions, as they are, or are not in favor—

One of these new Attendants is a Swiss— With Him He had a humourous conversation this day— The King spoke French to Him— The Swiss (Galliard) said He was not to speak French to Him— Upon which The King said “I know you cannot speak English therefore in future I shall always call you Dumbey.”

I was this evening informed that The Queen was to see H. My. Afterwards General Harcourt told Me He would go into The Anteroom to see if Her Majesty was come, & if She was, He would send to Me to let Me know it. After waiting some time I went, without hearing any thing from General Harcourt, to the Pages' Room, when one of Them told Me that The Queen was not come but that General Harcourt was in the next room with The King. From

the Pages' room I heard very high Words in the Kings Apartment between Him & one of Dr. Willis's Sons. The dispute had nearly brought Him in to confinement but upon Three of Dr. Willis's Men laying hold of Him, the turmoil subsided. It seems it had originated on his having spoke improperly of The Queen, & having refused to see Her. After this dispute was over Dr. Willis thought it was expedient to make Him see The Queen. I own I thought the experiment hazardous as He had now been so much irritated.

The Queen came soon after attended by Princess Augusta & Princess Elizabeth, H. My. received them with good humour, but He was high in spirits & talked away on various subjects incessantly. Picquet was attempted but that I understand did not go on very smoothly. Afterwards H: My. proposed singing, & for some time the various voices of the King, Queen, Princesses, & Dr. John Willis were heard in catches & chorus's— The King Himself on this occasion joined heartily in "Rule Britannia," & "Come cheer up My Lads." Where so much gloom has been, the hilarity of the present moment should be welcome, tho' in truth, it partook more of the jollity at an election, than the etiquette of a Court.

As by this time the King's spirits, who had begun high, were now increasing, a hint was given to The Queen & Princesses to retire, & who at this time had been about an hour in his Apartment— The King flew out a little at this, & turning to Mr. Willis He said, "He might surely stay a few hours with his Family, when He was obliged to stay so many with Footmen." It was now difficult to effect the separation without a crash, but by not pressing too much at the moment all came round again & ended well, & the King parted with his Family very quietly.

As this was certainly a Visit forced upon The King there may be doubt as to the good which may ultimately arise from it.

Wednesday Febry. 4th.

The King is reported to have slept five hours & a half last night, & to be calm this Morning.

A very blustering day has not prevented his Walk. He saw his Sheep this Morning, & talked for some time with his Shepherd. The rain came on & He was caught in it at some distance from the House. I saw Him coming across the Lawn in a very heavy shower which wet most of his Attendants thro'— He Himself fared better as He had his great coat on, which none of the others had. On his return He amused Himself throughout the day with playing on the Flute, an Instrument He once had played on, but which He had left off for many years. He also got by permission some small Tables & some books which He had seen at The Cottage in the Gardens yesterday, & which He had then desired might be brought here.

This Evening He saw the Queen, Princess Mary, and Princess Sophia. From some circumstances which had happened yesterday, Doctor Willis had not intended that another visit should have taken place so soon again— He behaved however with more calmness & propriety than He had on the preceding Night— He played at Piquet with The Queen & some singing took place, & Pss Mary took a part— She sung "Wind gentle Evergreen," & "Deel take The Wars" most prettily.

Tho' The King as usual has talked much, He was certainly more composed this evening than He has lately been.

Sir Lucas Pepys did not see The King this night. I own I regret that such opportunities are withheld. The reason given by Doctor Willis of late, for not letting these Gentlemen see The King of an evening, has been, that it flurries & agitates Him too much. I do not quite understand why the King's talking to His Shepherd, or his Gardiner, should not risk agitation, as much as one Physician going in of an evening with Dr. Willis to The King, to feel his pulse, and talk with Him for a few minutes—

Thursday Febry 5th.

The King is reported to have had five hours quiet sleep this night— The daily & long Walks which H.My. has taken of late, & being much out in the Air, have certainly much improved his bodily health, & contributed to his having better nights rest, than He has had for some time past— Doctor Willis has been of late induced to sit with H.My. about an hour, before He goes to bed, with the view of putting Him in good humour at this particular time, & by which He calculates on his obtaining a more quiet night.

This Morning H.My. was reported to be composed, & Dr. Willis said He was much better than He had ever yet seen Him— This good Account was afterwards confirmed by Sir Lucas Pepys telling us, that He had never seen Him better, than He was this morning, since He came to Kew— He related to Us two circumstances which had passed at this Interview— The one was that the King had listened to a long & curious Anecdote He had told Him of King William the Third (but which He did not relate to Us) & to which He had attended without interrupting Him, & on its conclusion He remarked, that it was a very curious Anecdote, & that it was singular He had never heard it before—

The other was that He had talked to Him of a Quaker who He had seen at a Masquerade this day (Febry. 5th 1756) at Northumberland House— From these anecdotes Sir Lucas Pepys drew such flattering conclusions— Would that the latter had not occurred—

Dr. Warren when He saw H.My., found him composed this day & more calm than He had been for some time past, but He observed the continuance of the same wrong notions. He still talked to Him of Eliza. Told Him that He has seen a Quaker on the 5th Febry. 1756 at a Masquerade at Northumberland House. He came back to his Latin which until this Day He had omitted for some time, & called Doctor Warren Richardus Warren Baronetus. Told Him

that Sir Lucas Pepys had just been feeling his Pulse & that He was a dull heavy Blockhead—

From these several histories, I fear it must be owned, that The King's actual state of Mind, has not been so favorable, as the reports of this day from hence have made it—

He has certainly for some days past gained in composure, & in that respect He is much better than He has been for the last fortnight, but I much doubt if His Mind has yet received that comfortable Amendment, which has been announced to be in progress. Now is certainly the time to look for such amendment, & when the Nights are good, the days more calm, & with his bodily health improved, fair expectation of it should be maintained.

H.My. walked twice this day in Kew & in Richmond Gardens. While taking his Second Walk, The Prince of Wales & the Duke of York from the Library saw Him crossing Kew Gardens in his Way to Richmond Gardens.

In the Evening The Queen—The Princess Royal & Pss. Amelia saw The King in his Apartment— Nobody but Dr. Willis & his two Sons are ever now in the Room when these Visits take Place— He was more calm than last Night. After The Queen left Him He played at Cards with Dr. Willis until both nearly fell asleep over Them.

Cards have been for some time a very useful and constant Amusement to The King. Before his Illness He used to dislike Them, but now He plays as soon as He is up, Often through the day, & at night always. This Morning He played with Sir Lucas Pepys.

Dr. Gisborne the Visiting Physician of this Night has not gone into The King's Apartments—

Emetics for the last few Weeks have become a frequent prescription— They have been administer'd several times & much good is expected from Them.

Friday Febry 6th.

The King is reported not to have passed so good a night yesterday, as the late preceding ones have been. He had four hours & half Sleep.

In the Morning He was not so calm as He was yesterday

also at times He was inclined to be High— However He became more composed in the course of the day.

At twelve o'Clock He took his Walk & staid out above Two hours, & paid a Visit to The Observatory in Richmond Gardens where He saw Mr. De Maimbrey & Mr. Rigaud.*

In his second Walk He went to the Botanic Garden where He saw Mr. Eaton his Gardiner. With Him He conversed & talked of Sir Joseph Banks who He wished much to see. This wish was not overlooked by Dr. Willis who has intention of letting Him see Sir Joseph tomorrow as if by accident at H.My's. Farm near Richmond Gardens.

Dr. Willis allowed the King this day to come into the Library, which, at My return from My ride, I found out by the confusion of Books &c out of their places— He took away with Him some, & among these were Hurds Sermons; † A Collection of Old Songs &c &c— With these it is his Intention to fill a Book Case He has in his Apartment. These occupations of furnishing his Room seem within a few days to please Him & engage much of his Attention.

In going to the Library He saw two large Pictures of Warley Camp by Loutherboung, which had been removed some time ago from his Room. These He now desired might be replaced there, & to which Dr. Willis consented.

This has been a day of Indulgence to The King— He was again allowed to shave Himself, which He did very well, & according to his former usual custom, He not only shaved his face, but his head all over—‡

Notwithstanding all this was done, & well done, I cannot yet help thinking that this Indulgence was rather a rash one. H.My. has also been allowed this day, & for the first time, to have a Knife & Fork—

* Besides being one of the Royal Chaplains the Rev. Stephen De Maimbrey succeeded his father to the post of astronomer at the new observatory at Kew. In this position he was assisted by the husband of his half sister, Mr. Stephen Rigaud.

† Dr. Hurd, bishop of Worcester. See ante (footnote).

‡ This was the custom when wigs were worn.

In the Evening He sent out to Dr. Willis requesting He might have one of his Stars. The Attendant who went with this Message said it was not meant to wear, but that The King wished to draw from it & to make out something for a New Order.*

The Queen, Princess Augusta, & Princess Elizabeth saw the King this evening in his Apartment. He was reported to have received Them well, & not to have been so much hurried as usual in his conversation. In the next room I could hear nothing of the subjects, but I could from thence ascertain that He was not talking as rapidly as usual. He played quietly at Cards with The Queen & there was no Catch singing.

After this Interview Dr. Willis told Us that it had gone off better than ever, & that He had never seen The King so well & so quiet as He was then.

On this report Dr. Reynolds who had not been permitted to see The King for some Nights, asked Dr. Willis, if He might go in & see Him for a few minutes. He replied that He had better not, as it would flurry & agitate Him. Dr. Reynolds said no more, & He did not see The King.

It now appears pretty clear to Me, that the Intention is not to let The Physicians see The King, on the pretext of the chance of their flurrying Him, while it is evident that Sir Joseph Banks, Mr. Eaton, Dr. De Maimbrey, Mr. Rigaud, The Shepherd, &c do not mischiefe, & He is permitted to see & converse with Them, It surely marks a something particular, that The Physicians only, are not to have their opportunities at proper times, of judging of the state of H.Mys. health.

This day Mr. Pitt arrived at Kew & had a long conference with The Queen.

Dr. Willis informed General Harcourt & Myself, this Evening that The King has been particularly anxious

* This was The Order of Minerva, for literary and scientific characters. The Knights were to take rank after the Knights of the Bath, have a straw-coloured ribbon, and a star of 16 points. The Order never materialised.

throughout this day to see Us both, & that He had asked with earnestness why He might not. I own I should now be glad that Dr. Willis would introduce Me, & should be most happy to Witness myself those favorable progresses, of which We have latterly received such encouraging details—

Saturday Febry. 7th.

The last night is reported to have been a very good one, & that H: My. was calm this Morning. When I saw Dr. Willis He informed Me that He had never yet seen Him so well as He was this day, & happy I was to find, that both Dr. Warren & Dr. Reynolds thought this a better day than usual,—yet the former remarked, that during the short interview He had just had, He found that many wrong notions which have appeared during his illness, still remained with Him this day.

These variations in observation & Report are distressing & tantalizing.

This Morning The King walked in Kew Gardens, & went to The Botanic Garden where He saw Mr. Eaton.

Before Dinner Mr. Keate by accident saw the King who told Him that He was as well as ever He was in his life. Mr. Keate thought there was much amendment in Him.

In the course of this day Dr. Willis & his two Sons expatiated very fully on the rapid advances to recovery which had been made, to Sir Lucas Pepys, Mr. Keate & Myself, & mentioned this as an extraordinary good day. What fell afterwards from Dr. Willis, rather damped than animated our hopes. He observed that the present was a time of nice management with The King, and that a very particular Attention was now necessary, for added He, “I could by rash Management make Him fly out at any time, & get angry & I would be burnt if it was not now in My power to make a Fool of Him in four days” The last part of this strange observation He repeated more than once & all present distinctly heard it—

I find also that throughout the day when the Willis's are at home, that H. My. is checked in every thing He says or

does improperly. This has established such a controul as has never yet existed before, & from which possibly ultimate good will be obtained— The Willis's well know the influence of their controul over Him, for they never let the King see anybody without one or more of Them being in the room at the same time.

This evening The Queen Princess Mary, & Princess Sophia, paid a Visit to The King in his Apartment— He played at Picquet with The Queen— while Pss. Mary amused Herself with a Game of Drafts with Dr. John Willis—

All was of good report, & all went off properly & quietly.

Sunday Febry. 8th.

The last night has not been so good as the preceding one, nor was The King so well this Morning. He was hurried, & tho' quiet his mind was full of those ideas, which have constantly been afloat during his Illness. Sir George Baker & Sir Lucas Pepys saw Him this Morning. On their coming into his Apartment He played on the Flute to Them, talked of Eliza &c. He had Cards in his Pocket & which He has not yet chose to part with—

He told Dr. Willis this Morning that He was lame & that his foot was swelled. This statement introduced the request that He might go out in his Phaeton. This was previous to Sir George Baker's & Sir Lucas Pepys's Visit to Him. On their coming in He told Them how He had deceived the Old Doctor, by shaming lameness. His deception however did not last long as Dr. Willis was informed of it by the Physicians. In order however to be sure Mr. Keate examined his foot & found no swelling or any apparent cause of complaint. He thought H: My. better on the whole than He had been when He last saw Him, but He now talked to Him in the like inconsistent manner, as He had just done to the Physicians.

This Morning proving rainy H. My. kept at home till the Evening, when clearing up, forgetting the lameness He had complained of in the Morning, He walked through Richmond Gardens to his Farm. In his Walk He had

some "brushes," as He calls them with Dr. John Willis & which are angry disputes, but these were mere verbal quarrels, & soon evaporated—

In the evening The Queen, The Princess Royal & Pss Amelia, paid Their Visit to The King— He played as usual at Picquet with The Queen, and as far as We heard from the next room everything seemed to be going on very quietly, more so indeed I thought than usual. Doctor Willis also reported well of this Visit. I was pleased that H.My. had not received his family as He had done the two preceding nights, with a serenade on his flute on their entrance—

After The King had retired to bed, Dr. Willis & his Son told Us how happy they had been to hear the King repeat his usual singular expression, (so usual to Him on all occasions formerly) of "What"! "What"! "What!" & which for the first time they had heard during the preceding day & very frequently during this evening—

It certainly is a very remarkable circumstance that however inseperable this expression used to be in his ordinary conversation, all around Him have observed that it had been entirely dropped during his whole Illness, & been completely laid aside, until renewed in the above Instances. Its return, tho' not a grace in language, yet restoring habits of better days may be presumed a forerunner of returning reason, & as such should be hailed with welcome. God grant that it may.*

The King this Morning desired Dr. Willis to tell Me that He wished Me not to leave this House until He left it Himself— In his Walks passing by The Library Win-

* As an example of how quickly these little bits of news concerning the King were spread abroad, the following may not inaptly be noted. The satirical Horace Walpole, writing on Feb. 12th to Sir Horace Mann says "I now do believe that the King is coming to *himself*: not in the language of the courtiers, to his senses—but from their proof, viz., that he is returned to his *what! what! what!* which he used to prefix to every sentence, and which is coming to his nonsense." The reader need hardly be reminded that Horace Walpole was not favourably disposed towards the King.

dows He enquired for Me, & not finding Me there, He desired to know, why it was that they kept Me away from Them.

This day The Chancellor arrived at Kew & had a conference with The Queen.

Dr. Gisborne did not see the King this night—

Monday Febry. 9th.

The last night was reported as having been a favorable one with seven hours sleep in the whole, tho' not a continued Sleep.

Dr. Gisborne, the Physician in Waiting since yesterday eveng., and Doctor Warren saw H: My. this Morning, & of whom very favorable report had been made by Dr. Willis previous to The Physicians going in. Dr. Gisborne after He had seen The King informed Us that He had never seen Him so well as this Morning. Dr. Warren said, that He was quiet & on the whole better, but that the wrong notions were still floating. The Willis's did not appear pleased with this report of Dr. Warren's or with the Morning's Bulletin which they observed ought to have said at least that The King was better than usual—

To say the truth I was not much satisfied with Dr. Gisborne's report, after I had received some additions to the conversation He had had—& tho' to play at cards is an innocent occupation, yet when in health H.My. never Dreamt of playing at Them before breakfast, & which He did with Dr. Gisborne; He played to Him also on the flute— Innocent pastimes no doubt, but now appendages to alter'd & interrupted habits—

Mr. Dundas, the Surgeon in Waiting, saw H.M^y this Morning for a few Minutes— On leaving Him, He told Me He thought Him better than when He last saw Him about a Week ago, but He still found Him unsteady when He said to him “That He was not sure He could trust Him” as this had (as He then told Me) allusion to some wrong notions He had broached during parts of his Illness respecting Lady Pembroke.

H.My. walked twice this day— His first Walk was to the Observatory in Richmond Gardens, where He staid an hour & a half. His second Walk was to The Exotic Garden where He saw Mr. Eaton his Gardiner.

In the Evening The Queen, Princess Augusta, and Princess Elizabeth saw the King in his Apartments. & their arrival was greeted by The flute, Cards with The Queen as usual succeeded—and afterwards singing by the King, & Princesses &c was introduced in harmony. Too unceremonious! There seemed to be too much hurry this evening in his conversation, & singing & loud laughing were too prominent features throughout this Visit.

Notwithstanding all this, Dr. Willis at this moment talks much of the great amendment in the King's health & He has very lately added, that this is a kind of disorder from which He does not fear a Relapse.

He best knows the sources of such comfortable expectations. For My part I try hard, & often, to cherish hopes, & to confirm these I have at times wished I could hear that H.My. had marked a consciousness of his Situation, Tho' He has occasionally mentioned somewhat alluding to it, yet He has not sufficiently felt its impressions, to awake Him to proper recollections on Himself— Such recollection in My Apprehension must be a leading step to confirmed Amendment—

This day Doctor Willis wrote a Letter to The Prince of Wales, which He deliver'd to Me & I forwarded it by the Groom, dispatched to Town with the day's Bulletin—

Tuesday Febry 10th.

The Bulletin of this Morning has been by much the most favorable of any which has yet been sent from hence. It announced that yesterday had been passed with composure that H:My. had a very good night, & that He had more recollection than usual this Morning. I joined heartily in the general satisfaction which this good Account diffused around, & the more so as I was informed by Sir George Baker & Dr. Reynolds that they had found Him decidedly

better, & that He had both received & dismissed Them in a much better manner than ever He had since his Illness.

I rode to Town this Morning, & found the joyous tidings were spreading fast in every quarter, & many were ready to think the recovery compleat, & among the flying reports of the day in Town, I was told that a Brother Equerry of Mine had said that The King was actually well enough to proclaim Himself fit to govern again tomorrow!—

Over Sanguine Accounts cannot but do mischief just now. They lead People to believe more, than can be found, & tend to unfit Them for a reverse, if unhappily such should happen, & which is yet not impossible. When in Town I was told by some I met, that The Queen was to dine with The King on that day. These & other ill founded histories of the day, marked the prevailing mistakes which over anxious hopes were dispersing over the Town, & which begun with the arrival of the Mornings Bulletin.

On My return to Kew this evening, I was happy to learn that the favorable Accounts of the Morning continued without variation, & that all was going on well.

The Queen, Pss. Mary. & Pss. Sophia, paid an accustomed Visit to The King in his Apartment this Evening. The meeting was quiet, & the conversation composed—It wound up latterly with a little singing—

When conversing with Dr. Willis & Dr. John Willis this Evening We were told that Mr. Charles Hawkins had seen the King for some time during this Morning, & that He had not been quite so well with Him for a little time at the beginning of this Interview. I should have been glad to hear Mr. Hawkins's report for few knew his habits better, but He had left Kew before I returned from Town— When I next see Him I shall lead Him to this Interview, as I consider this as a very material day.

Dr. John Willis also told Us this evening, that after The Queen had left the Kings Apartment, He was a little wrong again in conversation about his Two Pages, Mr. Brawn & Mr. Compton, but that He very soon got right again & composed—

I have often regretted the great difficulty there is in obtaining circumstantial & unbiased information as to passing occurrences, but this, coming in general through one Channel, must continue difficult to obtain, & its correctness often questionable.

H.My. saw his Gardiner Millican this day for the first time in Richmond Gardens. Dr. John Willis told Me that it appeared to Him that He spoke quite as usual to Him, except in one Instance which Millican took notice of & thought He would not have touched on, had He been quite well, & that was relating to a purchase of some particular Houses—

The Revd. Mr. Willis was much struck with the King's recollection last night. He desired The Attendants might leave the room as He had something He was anxious to say to Him— On their retiring He told Mr. Willis that Dr. Willis had at times mentioned to Him something of a Parliament, & that Dr. John Willis had smiled. "For God's sake continued the King do tell Me, Is there really a Parliament or not—?" Mr. Willis told Him He might be sure, that during so great an Illness as He had experienced, care had been taken of the Affairs of State, but beg'd He would not at present think on such Subjects, as they might do Him harm. The King replied He would take his Advice, but added, that He had adjourned the Parliament & therefore if it was now assembled, it was illegal—

I find from Dr. Willis that H.My. still notwithstanding the new faces, continues too familiar with his Attendants & that He is as usual, endeavoring making Them *Friends*. These are among the unsettled Symptoms of the day, which are not known abroad, but which with Us on the Spot indicate much as to the real state of the Mind.

This Night at half past eleven o'Clock a Messenger arrived from Mr. Pitt, with a letter directed to Colonel Digby. He had been gone to bed half an hour— On this the Messenger desired to see Me. He told Me He knew the contents of that Letter were for the Queen, & that his Orders were to bring the dispatch to Kew as fast as

possible, that the Queen might see it before She went to bed, & He pressed Me to get the letter conveyed to Her Majesty— On this statement I resolved to deliver the Letter without delay to Lady Charlotte Finch, & to whom I mention'd the circumstances by which it came to My hands, & left the rest to Her decisions. She carried the Letter to the Queen who opened it— It conveyed to Her the report of a Majority of 46 in a division in the House of Commons, for the Establishment of Her Council—

Sir Lucas Pepys did not see the King this night.

V. THE KING'S CONVALESCENCE AND RECOVERY

Wednesday Febry. 11th.

A Bulletin better even than that of yesterday was dispatched from hence this Morning. It stated that H. My. was better than yesterday & it was signed by Dr. Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys. I asked Dr. Warren, after He saw The King, how He had found Him. He told Me that this day He had found Him better, & that not the least impropriety had escaped from Him during this Interview.

I happen'd to have the Bulletin in My hand at this time, & to which Dr. Warren pointing, He said, "That is the Bulletin they wanted Me to sign Weeks ago" Former hesitations on his part, render'd Dr. Willis sneeringly triumphant on the excellent Bulletin of the day—

I recollected however that it was not very long ago since Dr. John Willis had stated to Mr. Keate that tho' He did not think the case an incurable One, He begun to fear it would be of long duration.

The King took a long Walk this Morning in Richmond Gardens. He paid a Visit to his Observatory & He there met Mr. Vuillamy his Watchmaker—& whom He had previously seen at Kew.

H: My's. Second Walk was in the Exotic Garden where He saw Mr. Eaton his Botanic Gardiner—who talking to Dr. Willis, the King overheard his promise to make up a Basket of Exotic Plants for the Doctor some of these days; & on hearing this, He added "Get another Basket Eaton at the same time, & pack up the Doctor in it, and send Him off at the same time."

This evening The Queen, The Pss. Royal & Pss. Amelia, saw the King in his Apartment— He was more quiet in

his conversation, tho' Higher in spirits this evening than during yesterdays Visit— Doctor Willis' report of it is very favorable—

The present appears to Me a very critical period of the disorder, & which seems to require the nicest management, & it may be equally risking to allow Him to talk to, & see many People, or to be hurried on too soon to variety of Topics with Them. His mind tho' it is apparently righting is still too Weak to be led into too much exertion without risk, and I understand that Doctor Warren has given a caution to Dr. Willis this Morning of the danger to be apprehended, by bringing the King too soon into Action, & has put in View, the probable advantage to be derived by patience, in securing the benefit of progressive Amendment.

The Bishop of Durham arrived at Kew this day & saw Dr. Willis— The Bustling Manners * was also here in eager pursuit of favorable Accounts from hence.

Thursday Febry. 12th.

The Accounts sent to Town this day still continued improving. They announced “ that His Majesty continued in a progressive state of Amendment.” He was out much of this morning in his Walks, & the favorable state of the Weather for some time past has proved a Very fortunate circumstance for Him—

This Day the Bishop of Salisbury (Dr. Douglas) came to Kew, to offer his congratulations on what He called the miraculous good news of the King's health— & to sound his panegyrick on Dr. Willis, to whose sole skill He imputed this Amendment. His zeal and Affection towards our beloved King is well known, but evidently He knows not the true history with Us.

The Queen, Princess Augusta, & Pss. Elizabeth paid a Visit to The King this evening in his Apartment, & the Meeting was reported as having been a very good one. When talking of it with Mr. Thos. Willis He told Me, that

* Colonel (afterwards General) Manners, equerry.

both last night, & parts of this day, there had been discernible "Shades" (as He expressed it) to the good, but that the good of this day, had in his opinion even exceeded that of yesterday. In justice to Mr. Thos. Willis I must say, that in general He speaks more out, & with more fairness & openness than his Relations do—

I confess I am now become desirous of knowing from My own Observations, what is to be considered as the Symptoms of that real progressive amendment now so much talked of. I wish for an opportunity to observe whether the Subjects which interest & lead his general conversations, are nearly such, as He had before his illness, or whether I shall find his composure & inclinations satisfied with more trifling or more ordinary pursuits than heretofore.

To Judge correctly of Him one should be alone with Him, indulging Him in the choice of his Subjects, & permitting Him to talk of these unfettered by the Controul of The Willis's or others about Him, but as yet I know not that such experiment has been made.

Doctor Reynolds did not see The King this Night.

Friday Febr. 13th.

The King had but an Indifferent Night, & four hours Sleep. This Morning before He was up, He was a little Angry, but this Brush subsided. I do not understand from The Physicians who have seen Him this Morning, that He was now so well as He was reported to be yesterday. Dr. Reynolds told Me that on his first going in, that H. My's. questions & conversation were well enough, but that before He left Him, He had got to Windsor topics, delusions, & phantoms & that He was not quite so well. Dr. Willis had not been so well satisfied also, and He had given Him two grains of Emetic Tartar, a medicine on whose efficacy there is at present much dependance, & which it is thought has latterly done the King much good, & to be very quieting— This medicine is now given to Him in small doses not unfrequently, when symptoms of irritability appear.

Doctor Willis was not much inclined that The King

should walk this day, but His anxiety to go out prevailed over the Doctor's scruples, & He went to Richmond Gardens—

Lord Onslow came this Morning to make his enquiries at Kew. I found He had adopted the general Term of His Friends viz that even Dr. Warren allowed H. My to be better now. I told Him that Dr. Warren, as well as the rest of the Physicians were allowed but a very short time every day to see the King, & consequently they must form their opinion & their report from the symptoms they then saw, & where they saw wrong they could not as men of honor report right— In a few Minutes after, Lord Onslow mention'd an Observation which Dr. Willis had made to Him very lately & which brought exculpation to The Physicians, had they in fact stood in need of it— Dr. Willis' observation, as now mentioned by Lord Onslow was, "That until these few days The King had never spoke sense, but by Accident, but that now this statement was reversed, & He spoke nonsense but by accident—" This Observation from Dr. Willis in one of his confidential communications shews that Dr. Warren has not reported so unfaithfully, as has been more than insinuated very often.

This Morning a Young Man, a Stranger, was stopped coming into Kew House. He had been up stairs the preceding Night & had gone to Mrs. Schwellenberg's room from whence a Servant turned Him out.— He had been troublesome likewise at Lord Sydney's* Office, & from thence a description of his person was sent by a Messenger, in case He should come to Kew. This young man returned to Kew House this Morning, when in consequence of a caution which had now been given & the description of his Person which had been received He was stopped by The Porter, & brought into The Hall.

He was a young Man from Scotland, said his Name was Morrison, that He had studied Physicks at Edinburgh & now wished to see the Queen that He might have an

* One of the Secretaries of State.

opportunity of offering a Cure for His Majesty— He was searched, but nothing besides some papers, an Inkhorne, half a Guinea, a few shillings, a Watch, & a few trifling Articles were found on Him. He was delivered over to Lord Sydney's Messenger who carried Him in a Chaise to Lord Sydney's Office To Me He evidently appeared insane but quietly so, & I am satisfied He came here with no mischeivous Intent—

I had this day an opportunity of receiving some Account from Mr. Charles Hawkins, of his Walk with the King on The 10th of this month, on which day the first very favorable report was dispatched from hence to Town, & which had announced that "The King had more recollection than usual."

I found from Mr. Hawkins, that H: My. was this day far from well, & this Dr. Willis & Dr. John Willis had mentioned to Us as being his statement on that Morning—

When Mr. Hawkins saw Him, He told Him He was glad to see Him, that He was truth; an expression which had not been unusual with Him, in the worst times. He conversed inconsistently with Him on various subjects, related to Him of his having played Lord Chatham, Lord Lansdowne & Lord Bute against one another— Talked of buying the Crown Lands Himself when they came to be sold, then winking to Mr. Hawkins He said "I shall then have Dundas's House on Richmond Green which was Queen Elizabeth's, & you know that everything which is Elizabeth's, is dear to Me "

He told Mr. Hawkins that He was to go to Gottingen with Him— In the course of this Walk He went to The Observatory from whence He sent to Richmond for some Cheese cakes called Maids of Honour, which when brought He eat, and divided with those who were with Him—

Such was the report from Mr. Hawkins of this favorable & memorable day, from circumstances which occurred during his Walk of an hour & a half with H: My.

How is confidence to steer, amidst such Intricate & uncertain Channels?

This evening The Queen, Pss. Mary, & Pss. Sophia saw the King in his Apartment. The report of this Visit from Dr. Willis was very favorable.

This day The Prince of Wales & the Duke of York came to Kew about twelve o'Clock & saw The Queen & later in the day Mr. Pitt arrived & had an Interview with Her Majesty—

Sir Lucas Pepys did not see the King this evening. He informed The Revd. Mr. Willis this evening, that He had had a long conversation on Wednesday last (the 11th Inst.) with The Chancellor, & that He had reported "The King to be in a State of convalescence."

I much fear that too much precipitancy is attached to this opinion. Convalescence will be nearer at hand according to My ideas when Reserve or Pensiveness mark in some degree a sense of his Situation, and I must doubt those symptoms of convalescence, which retain satisfaction in the modes in which He still usually passes his time. Tho' I have thus expressed Myself as to his Convalescence, I do not now, more than formerly, doubt H.My's. Ultimate recovery, but that his Convalescence has made the progress which Sir Lucas has reported, I am obliged to doubt from existing circumstances—

Saturday Febr'y. 14th.

The Bulletin of this Morning announced a Sequel of favorable appearances in H.My. On Sir George Baker's leaving his Apartment He told Me He had found Him better, but that He was notwithstanding "a little fidgetty." Sir Lucas Pepys who saw Him also thought favorably of Him, but I learnt that He had again been accupied with his Latin, & that his Mind ran much on Mottoes & Orders—He had with Him a new order which Mr. Compton the Page had drawn for Him with the Motto mentioned in a former memorandum viz "Rex a Populo non Seperandus" H.My. had been telling Sir Lucas that He thought "learning made Men better characters" & wanted a Mottoe applicable to this suggestion. Sir Lucas Pepys off hand

proposed the following, "Quo Doctiores, Co Meliores". Flat enough.

This Morning when His Physicians were with Him, he had Himself weighed— His Weight was 12 Stone 3 Pounds— His pulse was felt afterwards— It was 64— These are among the particulars related by The Physicians of their Morning interview.

Sir Joseph Banks, who of late has occasionally seen the King at his Exotic Garden, was this day kept from Him when He took his Walk that way, but for what reason I have not learnt. The King not finding Him enquired for Him, but Dr. Willis had desired He might keep out of sight, & He now told the King that He had been prevented from coming by a Cold—

This was intended to have been kept a Secret, & I heard it by mere Accident only,—from Mr. Eaton.

This Morning has been interrupted by an Influx of Visitors, enquiring after His Majesty's health— Within these two last days these have multiplied & contrary to usual Custom—

The High trained Courtiers seem now to have taken a hint, & are marking surpassing anxieties, by stealing a march on others not less anxious in the cause, but not equally accustomed to the practice of such finesse—

This evening The Queen, Pss. Royal, & Pss. Amelia visited the King— The Princesses now take their regular turns in accompanying The Queen to his Apartment.

Dr. Gisborne did not see the King this evening.

Sunday Febry. 15th.

The King slept seven hours & a half last night and the Bulletin of this Morning announced Him in a continued state of improvement. Dr. Warren found Him in an amended state this day— H.My. spoke to Him calmly & consistently on many subjects—asked about several of his Patients, properly.

Dr. Warren took an opportunity this day of asking Dr. Willis for what He now called "a liberal Account how

the King really passed the day with Him in conversation." The Doctor said, that now & then He asked a little Angrily, Why He was kept here, for that He was now quite well, & that He had asked also, what they meant to do with Him.

It has been most strongly hinted to The Dr. Willis's to be very cautious at this most Interesting stage of the disorder, & they seem well inclined to attend to the hint.

Mr. Gieswell one of His Majesty's Pages was allowed to see Him yesterday for a few Minutes— His conversation with Him was not quite right— He told Him He should go with Him & that the others should stay behind & receive Pensions of £80 a year— Finding that Gieswell had been the preceding day to Windsor He enquired of Him who He had seen there, He replied that He had seen Greisbach & Kelner two of his musicians—on which the King said "Poor Greisbach, Poor Kelner," & shed Tears.

I note circumstances from the few which reach Me now, minutely, that the progress of recovery may be the better traced throughout hereafter—

The expressment of particular enquiries has not abated this day more than yesterday, nor is it likely that it will for one sends many.

Among the enquirers of this day have been The Duke of Richmond, Lord Essex, Mr. Secry. Dundas &c.

The Duke of Richmond, I had the honor of receiving & much amused I was, (former occurrences being still fresh in My recollection) with the concluding speech He made on leaving Kew Palace— Observing how truly comfortable the Accounts of The Kings convalescence were, He added, that "Nobody on Earth could feel more anxious good Wishes for His Majestys Welfare than Myself."

The King when walking this day by accident met Mr. Keate who He took round the Gardens with Him, & He afterwards expressed much satisfaction with the King's manner & conversation throughout—

Still from other quarters there are Whispers that all is not quite so favorable— In beleiving both, I must think that H.My. does not preserve an equal good manner

throughout the day, & this most probably is the real case, for still I too well know, that all wrong has not yet quite disappeared.

In the evening The Queen, Princess Augusta, and Pss. Elizabeth, paid their Visit to the King, who played at Cards with the Queen— On such a day this has not been with Him an accustomed practice—& it marks, that all is not yet as it ought to be—

Sir Philip Hales on hearing of this occupation, asked The Revd. Mr. Willis if The King distinguished days. He answer'd "yes". Sir Philip then said. "I do not think H. My. would play at Cards on a Sunday if He was well, & Himself". Mr. Willis replied, "He knows it is wrong, but He says He thinks it may now be excuseable for He had no other way of entertaining the Queen."

Monday Febr'y. 16th.

The Bulletin of this Morning was short and very favorable. Sir George Baker said He found the King tolerably well & both He & Dr. Reynolds agree that in the short conversation they had with Him They discovered no impropriety in it.

This Morning I went to Town. On my return I found that there had been many enquiries from Town. Among those who came were the Duke of Athol, the Duke of Buccleugh, Lord Cathcart &c &c.

The King walked out twice this day. In one of his Walks He was accompanied by The Queen. They went to The Green House & afterwards to the Exotic Garden. The King accidentally saw My Servant in the Dining Room as He passed through. He asked Him if I was come back from Town, & how I did. He then enquired of Him, how long He had lived with Me. These questions reminded much of the gracious kindness, which was ever so much awake in Him, in his undisturbed days.

I hope I am mistaken in My observations, when I think, that the Doctor Willis's appear to be rather low this day, as if Matters were not going on as well as they have wished.

They are more silent than usual. This is mere remark at present, for I hear of nothing amiss.

The Queen, Pss Mary, & Pss Sophia, were with the King this evening. As usual He played at Piquet with the Queen, & in the course of the evening He played one Tune on the Flute to Her. The Flute had amused Him much at times during parts of this day, & of late

I heard no particular report from Dr. Willis of this Interview. Colonel Digby informed Me, that He did not beleive The Queen was altogether as well satisfied with this evening as She had been with the preceding one.

The Chancellor was here this day & saw The Queen.

Tuesday Febr'y 17th.

The King was reported to have had a good Night. From Dr. John Willis I learnt, that He had about five hours & half sleep. From Mr. Dundas who was in attendance yesterday evening, & who lay very near the Kings Apartment, I learnt, that He had heard H.My. get up five times from the time He went to bed, till Seven o'Clock in the Morning— He was so particular in his Statement that He mentioned to Me each separate hour at which He rose. This I note only to mark, that accurate Accounts are not easily obtained from all quarters & that I have not been very much to blame for having from a very early period of this distressing Illness, been in the practice of suspending my Judgement, & pausing a little for truth—

Doctor Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys signed the Bulletin of this day. It was a remarkable One, therefore I shall be particular in My Notes of this day, & the more so as this day has afforded some very remarkable occurrences—

The Bulletin announced “That The King for some time past, had been in a State of Amendment & that He was this day in a State of convalescence—”

Doctor Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys told Me that when they saw H.My. this Morning, every thing He said was very proper, & that He had dismissed Them well.

From Dr. Warren I collected that the ill He had learnt

was from Dr. Willis's Account, but that for the short time He had seen the King all was favorable— He had heard from Dr. Willis that H.My. still talked of, & continued his fixed expressions, of going to Hanover—

With surprise I heard it was in agitation, & actually in discussion, whether the Chancellor should not be introduced to the King. This originated from Doctor Willis having during the preceding day, made the King a sort of promise, that He should see the Chancellor the next day. The Chancellor had arrived here before the Morning Bulletin was made out. Whether He had been sent for that H.My. might see Him, or whether He came to The Queen on other business I know not. Doctor Warren disapproved of the promise having been made & regretted it— He observed that He thought the more proper mode would have been, before The King saw the Chancellor that the Groom of the Bedchamber in waiting, Myself, or some Person who was well known to Him, & who had not been allowed to see Him for some time, should accompany Him in his Walks, or be introduced to Him in his Room.

Mr. Thomas Willis thought that as a kind of Promise had been made, & that H.My. expected to see The Chancellor, there was great risk of perturbation if He was disappointed in his present expectations—

The promise was certainly incautious & inconsiderate, but the reasoning of Mr. Thomas Willis turned the Scale, & it was now decided that The Chancellor should pay a short Visit to H.My.—

It was previously agreed by the Physicians that The Chancellor should not talk with Him on business of Parliament for fear it should agitate Him too much. Every thing being thus prepared The Chancellor was introduced— H: M: was a little nervous. He talked with The Chancellor about the several Powers of Europe; of what The Emperor & Empress were doing; Mentioned the Troubles of France; Asked about the New King of Spain & whether He had done any thing since He had succeeded to the Throne which seemed to mark his Character. All this was

not amiss— What struck The Chancellor as improper was that The King told Him, that the last time He had seen Him He had made Himself appear worse to Him than He really had been. The Chancellor was not well pleased with the appearance of his Countenance, & did not think it that of so much health as it had been represented by The Physicians.

During this Conversation The King seem'd to wish to talk of the Parliament, but this Subject was parried. Nobody was present at this Interview, but The Revd. Mr. Willis.*

The Queen walked this Morning round Kew Gardens with the King, accompanied by Dr. Willis's Sons.

At her return I had the honor of handing Her up Stairs. Her My. made no mention of The King. She observed only on the state of the Weather, that it was very windy and cold, & that She should not have gone out, if The King had not expected Her—

After this I went to the Pages' Room, where I met Mr. Dundas of Richmond. He desired to speak to Me in the next room. He had seen the King the preceding Night, & from what He had then seen He was now uneasy & perplexed what to do. He wished the circumstances to be noted, & yet He was afraid to communicate Them to any one who might quote Him, or talk of Them. He then in confidence told Me that He had by no means been satisfied last Night with The King's Manner, & that He had found Him very much disturbed. He took off a blue Ribbon from a Compass & put on another. Then giving Mr. Dundas a significant look He kissed the Ribbon, & put it by in a Drawer. This marked much derangement, & too much allusion to the history of Eliza. After having done this He gave the Compass to Mr. Dundas for Doctor Willis (who was in the Room all this time) to direct Him over Lincoln Heath. Afterwards taking up a Candle He told Mr.

* Horace Walpole, writing a week later to the Countess of Ossory on this incident, says: "*Iron tears may fall down Pluto's cheek* when he sees Nebuchadnezzar come to himself." Iron Pluto was Burke's name for Lord Chancellor Thurlow.

Dundas, that He would shew Him a Hog, when taking Him to his own Picture, He said "Did you ever see such a Hog?" He then gave Mr. Dundas a Velvet Case, telling Him, it was to make Him a night Cap. All this Dr. Willis saw, as He was present in the Room, & I saw The Velvet Bag in his possession this day.

When Dr. Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys were in conclave here this Morning, Dr. Willis gave to neither of Them the least hint or intimation of these particular circumstances, & seeing The King at a more favorable period, & behaving with propriety, they signed that Bulletin, by which They for the first time announced "a State of Convalescence," to the Public—

The Chancellor may also have formed ideas not the most correct, as to the actual State of the King's Health collected during a short Interview, & possibly during a period of intermitting Propriety—

From what I now know, sorry am I to be so sure as I am at this moment, that the Dear King was by no means well at that day, when the joyfull News of his Convalescence was announced to The Public—

I am informed that Dr. Warren, after the Chancellor had seen the King, asked Him (The Chancellor) if a Private Person had appeared to Him as He had done at this late Interview He would have taken off the Statute of Lunacy—The Answer is reported to have been "NO, but I would have sent Him home to his Friends, to be seen again in Ten days—"

When the Queen left The Kings Apartment after Her Walk with Him, H: My. came with Her a few steps into the Pages' Room, through which She was to pass, where on seeing Mr. Dundas He exclaimed, "Ah! Daavid," & asked Him if He had given the Compass to Dr. Willis, forgetting that He had seen Him do this last Night.

Doctor Willis told Me today that He did not now wish Me to avoid the King if I met Him in the Gardens or Elsewhere, & desired I would not now shut the Library Windows— He added that if He should touch on any-

thing that was wrong He wished I would turn its drift, & should He talk of Hanover & of going there, He desired I would not contradict Him.

I consider these hints from Doctor Willis to Me as having originated from those which Dr. Warren had given Him this Morning, viz that the best preparation for H.My. to receive others, would be by beginning to see, & be with Us here—

The late fluctuations have been perplexing & distressing, & truth & plain circumstance has been more difficult to read than usual. I have heard that yesterday The King had a degree of fever on Him & which may have put Him out of sorts. Dr. John Willis said He had not been quite so well yesterday, as He had been for some preceding days. Another circumstance has also come to My knowledge & to which part of the late unwelcome Variations may be attributed. Princess Mary told Mr. Charles Hawkins this day, that The King saw Mr. Smelt yesterday at his House near The Exotic Garden, & that He had afterwards walked with Him in Richmond Gardens. Few People in his undisturbed days have been in more favor or More Interesting to H.My. than Mr. Smelt— Might not such interview at this time, have occasioned a degree of Agitation? I have found, that possibly this has not been the first. Mr. Smelt has been very often in this House since the King's Illness;— He has kept from our Room, but has been very often in Doctor Willis's Room, & He sees many in this House very frequently & all are glad to see Him, from his amiable manners. Still there has been management & reserve in his Visits to this House, hitherto—

This day Mr. Smelt introduced Mr. Bryant, Author of Books on the Antient Mythology to Doctor Willis, with whom He requested He might shake hands in expression of his high regard, "for the Great Recovery" He had so happily brought about—

Mr. Pitt was here this day— The Queen saw Him.

In the Evening an Accustomed Visit was paid by Her to The King accompanied by Pss. Royal, & Pss. Amelia.

Wednesday Febry. 18th.

The King had a good night & a favorable Bulletin appeared this Morning. He came this Morning to The Library where Coll. Digby was at this time. He found Him rather hurried, & talked to Him about giving Him his rank again in the Army. Afterwards He walked in Kew Gardens with The Queen. On his return when, the Queen was about to leave Him, He asked Doctor Willis if it would not be a proper attention in Him to hand Her My. up Stairs to Her Apartment. Dr. Willis consented. He attended The Queen up Stairs, and after a few Minutes He came down to his own Room. I own this has been a very favorable circumstance to My Mind. I consider his readiness in coming down as a sense of his Situation, & from which real good may arise.

H: My. had a second Walk this day, & all went off well—

He saw His Watchmaker Vuillamy this Morning & who has lately occasionally seen Him— Always fond of Time Peices, Watches, Clocks, &c He has been for some days past been particularly occupied & amused with Them.

The Prince of Wales & The Duke of York were here this evening & saw The Queen—

Several Visitors came today Amongst These were Lord Uxbridge, Lord Beaulieu, Lord Bulkley—Lord Delewar (*sic*) &c &c and Mr. Smelt introduced the Bishop of London to Doctor Willis's Apartment—

This evening The Queen, Pss. Augusta, & Pss. Elizabeth, saw the King in his Apartment— He was in good spirits & read part of Shakespear's *Merchant of Venice* aloud in different Tones of Voice as suited to the Characters. The part He particularly attended to was Shylock waiting Judgement against Antonio—

Thursday Febry 19th.

The Bulletin of this Morning announced that “His Majesty continued to advance in recovery”— Doctor

Warren & Doctor Reynolds were the Inspecting Physicians of the Day. Doctor Warren told Me, that He had been some time with The King who had talked to Him on various subjects consistently. He spoke much of the Duke of Cambridge. He shewed Him the Chair which had been made for Him during his Illness, & pointed to it, with what Doctor Warren thought a look, not of unpleasant recollection.

The Princes who had been here yesterday, wishing to see the King, requested thro' Dr. Warren to have their desire made known, & consulted upon. In the evening Dr. Willis told Us, that He had decided agst The propriety of the Princes seeing the King at present, and as I heard, Dr. Warren also was of that opinion.

The King took his usual Walk this morning attended by Dr. John Willis & Two men.

About the middle of the day Mr. Pitt came here and Mr. Dundas.

This Evening the King asked if He might not go up Stairs to invite the Queen to His Apartment— Doctor Willis replied, "With all My heart," & went with Him up Stairs to The Queen. It was there proposed, that H. My. should spend the evening in Her Apartment, & this was readily agreed to, & He passed the Evening very comfortably with his Family— This sudden Visit put a few to Rout up Stairs who happen'd then to be with The Queen and among the rest Mr. Smelt appeared in View—

After The King had staid two hours with The Queen He returned to his own Apartments below Stairs— Sir Philip Hales, Sir Lucas Pepys, Mr. Keate & Myself waited in The Pages Room to receive Him as He passed. H. My. enter'd his Room quite calm, & unflurried and spoke to Us all, as We stood. When He came to Me, He graciously shook hands with Me, I having been the only one of the whole Party Who He had not seen for a long time— He said, "I am sorry you have had a loss" alluding to the late death of My Brother in Law Sir Henry Harpur Hooper & then kindly asked Me how My Sister

was— What He said to Me at this time was collected & much in his usual manner— He then dismissed Himself from Us & went to his Apartment.

Not having spoken to H.My. some time I was the better able to judge of any Alteration in Him, & I was now quite satisfied that a very considerable one, & for the better, had taken place. What He said to Me was in every respect perfectly proper, & in every particular very much like Himself. His Manner was neither quick nor hurried, On the contrary He spoke rather more deliberately than He usually did in health.

I understand He is to see The Chancellor again tomorrow.

Friday Febry 20th.

Happily every Morning now is ushering in with cheering Accounts.

Sir George Baker & Sir Lucas Pepys saw the King this Morning & on the whole they spoke favorably of H: My. The former now perceived some shades. He had played on the flute to Him, & talking of His Star He told Him He intended to change the Motto—

The Chancellor saw The King this Morning— He staid with Him an hour & Forty Minutes. During the greatest part of this time (if not during the whole) He was alone with Him. Immediately after this Visit Doctor Willis told Me that The Chancellor had been quite satisfied with his conversation.

After The Chancellor had left The King, He prepared for a walk, but He was detained a little by Mr. Palmer, the Cutler, who had at his request been sent for— It was indeed quite new to Me to see H.My. occupied as He now was in looking at various cases of Razors which were on the Table before Him. He took up one of these Cases & which He was pleased most kindly, to give Me.

This, & The Chancellor's Visit allowed Him but a short Walk of about an hour— Dr. John Willis had told me that He wished I would walk with The King this day,

adding that it would please Him, & it was on this Account that I was in H: Mys. Apartment when Mr. Palmer was with Him, being there to be in readiness to attend Him in his Walk. During this Walk I had full opportunity of making My observation on the degree of amendment H. My. had made since I spoke to Him on the 27th of Janry. At first He appeared to Me to be somewhat hurried. He touched upon circumstances of the day on which He had been removed from Windsor to Kew. He recollected these well, & talked of Them with a good humoured Countenance tho' the recollection was displeasing to Him; for He added, "that was indeed a very disagreeable day" Then turning to Me He said, "For God's sake tell Me, how long you knew of My removal before it took place" I thought it proper to answer this question with reserve & told Him, "I certainly knew that it was wished H: My. should remove to Kew, early in that morning of the day, when it actually took place." To this He replied that not a circumstance of that day had been forgot by Him & then added "As for You I will do you the justice to say, that you pledged Yourself to Nothing—but Harcourt told Me to trust to his Honor, & I have not forgot that." To what this particularly alluded I do not know, for I cannot recollect any thing which passed on that day, on the part of General Harcourt, to which the above pointed remark could apply.*

After this conversation with Me H. My. turning to Dr. John Willis He said, He had been talking that Morning to the Chancellor of this particular day, & that He had told

* This is almost certainly explained in Madame D'Arblay's diary, who writes: "The plan settled between the princes and the physicians was, that Her Majesty and the princesses should go away quietly, and then that the King should be told that they were gone, which was the sole method they could devise to prevail with him to follow. He was to be allured by a promise of seeing them at Kew." . . . "The bribery, however, which brought, was denied him!—he was by no means to see the Queen!" On General Harcourt, being the senior of those deputed to attend the King, would naturally fall the duty of employing this subterfuge.

Him, "That at this time, Mr. Pitt & Myself had been his steadiest Friends."

It was now that I observed the strongest shades which had occurred during this Walk, & here was wrong— He now asked Me, if I had not recommended Sangster one of the new attendants on Him. He beleived I had & He added that He was the best Servant of the whole. Here all was mistake, however all ceased when We came to The Exotic Garden, and to the several Hothouses in it, where He was much amused & talked of various plants with recollection— After this throughout the remaining part of the Walk He conversed on various subjects & much like Himself— He talked of the purchase of Kew for £20000, & renewed the former plans of laying Kew & Richmond Gardens together.

H.My. now related to Me parts of the Conversation He had had with the Chancellor this Morning. He intimated that He had mention'd the Parliament to Him, but slightly. He said the Chancellor had asked Him, if He was not anxious about Parliament, & that He had told Him, "He was anxious but not curious at present" He then told Me that it was his Wish to keep quiet, as things were now going on so well & that He was recovering so fast. I expressed my satisfaction, at hearing Him say this, & to know that He was resolved to be patient, & prudent, & I desired H.My. would beleive Me when I said, that his Salvation depended on the resolve. He took this with great good humour & said with earnestness "Beleive Me I have no Child's play before Me, but all will do well by degrees."

If passing shades have appeared during parts of this Walk, they have been so soften'd off by what succeeded, & have become so faint from what they have been, that it would not be fair to lay much stress upon Them at this time, but more just to consider Them as mists dispersing fast before Sunshine. Still I think I do not deceive Myself when I deem the present, as the period of the nicest management for H. My. Every thing is going on prosperously, &

nearly as well as they can be, but if He is hurried on to business, or brought forward too soon, all may still relapse, & become confusion—

The Mind is recovering its tone & strength every hour, & He is now in that tranquil mood in general, which renders it less difficult to persuade Him from what is not for his good.

This Evening The King went up stairs to The Queen's Apartment. As He went through the Anteroom He saw Sir Philip Hales, Dr. Gisborne— Mr. Dundas & Myself— I thought He seemed more hurried than when I saw Him in the Morning— He called Mr. Dundas "Daavid," & told Him He was still the Knave of Hearts. To Dr. Gisborne He spoke in a particular tone of Voice, imitating the Doctors Voice. These must be called Shades, however his general conversation was good— It is too much to expect, that all will subside at once where there has been so much wrong throughout a very lengthen'd Illness. The Tail of the Cloud sprinkles, thin, but long after the Storm has passed, & when it is seen, but in the distance.

On H.Mys. return from The Queen's Apartment, where his Visit had lasted about 3 hours, all the hurry which I had lately noticed seem'd to have subsided. He spoke to each of Us, one after another quite in his gracious Drawing Room stile, & without the least accidental Impropriety.

This has been rather a trying day but certainly on the whole all has gone off most comfortably well. After The Chancellor's Visit and on his return from his succeeding Walk, a precautionary dose of 2 grains of Tartar Emetic had been given to Him, a medicine (as I have already noted) to which much good is attributed, whenever any irritation appears. It is curious, so often as H.My has now taken it, how little he suspects the cause of his many sicknesses— but this medicine is so cunningly & so variously masked by Dr. Willis, that it is almost impossible to detect, or even to suspect the Vehicles. At one time it comes in

Whey, at another in Asses Milk, Sometimes in Bread and sometimes it becomes successful in bread & Butter &c &c.

Saturday Feby 21st.

This Morning's Bulletin announced "That his Majesty was happily advancing in recovery." & Doctor Warren thought very favorably of Him this day.

The Physicians have been in consultation on a Letter from The Princes to The Queen, in which it was requested that their Opinions might be taken on the propriety of their seeing The King in his present state. The Answer I have understood to be that they did not recommend the proposed Interview for some few days. It is likewise further reported, that His Majesty having been told that The Princes had so expressed a Wish to be permitted to Pay Him a Visit, that He was pleased at their Intentions but had Wished to delay seeing Them, until He had seen the Chancellor once more, saying that after this He should be glad to receive Them. This may very well have been The King's own Answer, but to Me it appears to have been announced thro' the form of a King's speech.

About mid day the King took his Walk. Sir Joseph Bank's was at this time sitting with Me in the Library, Doctor John Willis coming in said to Sir Joseph, if He had no objection He might join the King in his Walk, as He knew He would be very glad to see Him. He accordingly set out directly after Him; The King seeing Him coming, stopped for Him, & after a gracious reception They walked on. The Weather was uncertain, & the day at times interrupted by heavy showers— The King however continued his Walk with Sir Joseph Banks about three hours. They first visited the Exotic Garden, thence walked through Richmond Gardens where The Sheep were looked at, Thence they proceeded across the London Road to March Gate where H. My. has lately made a Farm yard & erected Farm Offices. While here, it rained, & was late. A Gentleman's carriage was borrowed in the neighbourhood, & it had begun to proceed when the Weather cleared.

The King expressed a Wish to get out & continue his Walk. He did so, & giving the Coachman a Guinea, He dismissed The Carriage—

I saw Sir Joseph Banks after this Walk, who was surprised & pleased with all he had seen & heard during this Interview, which He said, “was very near right,” Anxious to know where He might have discover’d a hitch, I found that H.My. had dwelt on going to Hanover. Sir Joseph said He hoped not, & to this He made no reply. He talked of dismissing those who had been about Him during his Illness, saying that He would keep none of his Pages, but that He would pension them off. He hinted that He never more would have Drawing Rooms. These tho’ perhaps not unwise intentions in themselves, yet I do not think He would have mentioned to Sir Joseph at usual periods.

Previous to Sir Joseph Banks’s going away I took the liberty of recommending Him to be cautious, as to the Accounts He might give of his late Interview with H.My, and that the Statement He might possibly be inclined to give to Ministers would doubtless be important. I observed to Him, that this was a moment of anxiety & of difficulty, That He must be on his guard not to let Himself be quoted, as reporting The King quite well, for tho’ to The Dr. Willis’s & Myself, He had expressed Himself much pleased & satisfied with what He had seen and heard, still some chequering shades had been observed by Him. He must not therefore (I told Him) risk the imputation of blame, in bringing Him too forward & which might be eventually laid, to his Intelligence by those who might be willing now to risk an experiment, but afraid to stand Themselves, the hazard of a reverse.

Sir Joseph seemed aware of such possibilities, & I was happy to find that He was fully persuaded that every prudent, precaution was absolutely necessary at this critical period of H: Mys Health.

After I had seen the King yesterday, I learnt that Colonel Digby had also been with Him, and as He afterwards went

away I had no opportunity of asking any particulars of his Interview until his return this Morning.

When I met Him I related to Him fully & fairly what had passed when I walked with H: My yesterday.

Colonel Digby then told Me that He had found Him not so hurried as He was when He saw Him a few days ago, & He thought that his general conversation was now very good, tho' He saw still some remaining shades.

After The King had dined this day He took a second Walk & in the evening He paid a Visit to The Queen in her Apartment up Stairs. On his return to His own, He conversed with Dr. Reynolds, Sir Philip Hales, Mr. Battiscombe & Myself in the Antiroom. During this short Interview not a single Impropropriety escaped Him & his conversation was quite in his natural & usual Manner.

Sunday Febry 22d.

The Bulletin of this day announced an uninterrupted progress to recovery. The Physicians of the day were Sir George Baker & Dr. Reynolds. When they saw H.My. this Morning they thought well of Him, but He said to Dr. Reynolds with a significant Smile, as He was putting up the leaf of a Table "This is called a Pembroke Table"—Would the observation had been spared. Sir George Baker remarked to Me this day that He wished H.My. would leave off thoughts of changing the Motto of his Star. Another remaining shade of this day.

The Chancellor saw the King this Morning, & He staid with Him alone about an hour & twenty minutes. What passed has not yet transpired, further that Doctor Willis telling Us that The Chancellor was "mightily pleased."

I heard afterwards that H.My. told the Chancellor that He had had an Attachment thirty years ago, & that on this The Chancellor had advised Him to drop such Ideas at Fifty—

I suggested to Doctor Willis this Morning, that when the Chancellor came again, He might possibly obtain a better opportunity of judging of Him by walking out,

rather than by conversing with H. My. in a Room, as He would then see Him in his more natural manner, & be enabled to make his remarks from the variety of ordinary occurrences which would arise in the course of a Walk.

Dr. Willis did not seem to disapprove of this proposition. In the course of this Morning Mr. Pitt, Mr. Villiers, & Mr. Grenville The Speaker, came to Kew— Mr. Pitt did not see The King.

General Harcourt joined H. My. in his Walk this Morning. He had not seen the King to speak to Him since the evening We attended Him from Windsor to this place— On his return It was a satisfaction to Me to be told by General Harcourt, that He had found the report I had made to Him of H. My. after My walk with Him on Friday last, corresponded so fully with what He had just had an opportunity of observing Himself when He was out with Him. On the whole He declared Himself very much pleased notwithstanding He likewise had discovered slight shades.

The King, as is now his usual practice, saw Her Majesty in Her Apartments up Stairs this evening— When He returned He saw General Harcourt, General Gordon, Coll. Digby, Sir Lucas Pepys, Mr. Hawkins & Myself in the Anteroom to his own Apartment— He was in high Spirits, but conversed some time with Us without any intervening Impropriety, & quite in his natural Manner—

Seeing so many of Us together in the Windsor Uniform He said “It looked comfortable, & made Him think Himself nearer home”

Monday Febry. 23d.

The Bulletin of this Mornng. exceeded even the former ones in good report. It announced, that H: My. in all respects advanced towards Recovery.

Dr. Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys signed this Bulletin— The former I saw this Morning, & He spoke very favorably of every thing which passed at this Interview which He had just had with The King. Dr. Willis' Son was with Him in the Room, & He remarked that towards the latter part of

the Visit when Dr. Willis came in, The King spoke slower than He was doing when the Door opened, a difference of which He did not think ill, on the contrary He thought such controul by no means prejudicial.

As the King had appeared so well at this time to Dr. Warren, He remarked to Dr. Willis, that He thought He ought now, by degrees to take away his Men, & again suffer his own Pages to attend Him now & then.

Tho' Doctor Warren did not at the time know it, yet it had come to My knowledge that for some days past some of his Pages had been allowed to see H. My. & that Papendick had assisted in dressing Him yesterday.

Doctor Warren also recommended that He should be indulged in an Airing in a Carriage with The Queen, & I beleive this was offered, tho' it did not take place, as the King went up stairs to The Queen's Apartment & directly after came down & took a Walk, & a long one for Her round, Kew Gardens. Dr. Willis Dr. John Willis & Mr. Smelt attended in this Walk.

The Prince of Wales & the Duke of York were expected this day, & the King made preparation for this Visit. Before they arrived The Duke of Gloucester & the Duke of Cumberland came to make their enquiries but neither of Them saw The King.

At half past three o'Clock The Prince of Wales & The Duke of York arrived at Kew. Colonel Digby hasten'd up stairs to give notice of Their arrival to The Queen.

General Gordon, & I met Them in the Passage on their alighting from Their Carriage. As soon as The Prince of Wales saw Me, He called to Me and said He wished to speak to Me. At this moment Colonel Digby came down Stairs from the Queen's Apartment, & informed Their Royal Highnesses, that The King had Himself arranged every thing respecting their meeting, & that He wished to see Them in The Queen's Apartment & where Her Majesty was then waiting for Them.

On this communication the Prince said He would not for a Moment delay paying his respects to The Queen, &

leaving Me, He joined the Duke of York, & went up Stairs.

I own It was pleasing to Me, that The Prince saw the King this day, without having previously spoke to any Person in this House.

Their Royal Highness staid with The King above half an hour, Colonel Digby, attendant on The Queen, saw Them come out of Her Apartment, & attended Them, immediately from thence to their Carriage.

They both, to Colonel Digby, to General Gordon, and to Myself, expressed Themselves much satisfied at the King's Amendment, & only mentioned two circumstances which were new to Them, & different from his former topics of conversation. The one was the information He gave them that He had now taken up Latin again, & that He had recovered a good deal of it during his Illness. The other was that He had learnt Picquet from Mr. Charles Hawkins, & that He now played at it as well as Himself. I have now to allude to a more interesting circumstance.

His Majesty in passing through the Pages' Room from his own Apartment to Meet his Two Sons up stairs, made a pause, & after being silent for a few seconds, He took his handkerchief from his Pocket, & wiping his eyes with it He said " It was a maxim of his Ancestor of the House of Brunswick, never to shed a Tear " He then went up Stairs.

From Their Royal Highness's, Colonel Digby learnt that the King had cried much on his first receiving Them, an Impulse aimiably natural, & therefore pardonable, tho' against the general maxim of His august family.

This evening I received two Letters, The one addressed to The Chancellor, The other to Mr. Pitt, both wrote by The King, with his commands to send them directly to Town to their Addresses, by a Groom— I dispatched them accordingly about eight O'Clock. At eleven o'Clock I received The Chancellor's Answer, directed to The King, & I found that Mr. Pitt had sent his answer by a Messenger of his own to Lady Charlotte Finch. I have understood that H.My. had complained that the suspense He was in

from not knowing what was now going forward, & The Chancellor not chusing to give Him that information, disturbed Him much. He had there fore wrote these two Letters to desire their attendance here tomorrow. This I learnt from Colonel Digby.

H. My. paid his usual Visit this evening to The Queen up stairs. It lasted about three hours. On his return He spoke to Us in the Antiroom Where We were waiting, for Him. As last Night, He was in good spirits, & tho' nothing that could be called an Impropriety passed, I did not like his Manner quite so well as I had done the preceding Night. I found that General Gordon was also of the same opinion with Me.

I am more & more convinced that the present is a very nice period in H.Mys. approaching recovery, & nothing I dread more than his being brought forward too soon. But I trust every thing will be conducted cautiously.

From the little I have heard of his Conversation during this day, I must think that shades exist still. Colonel Digby saw Him for a little time in the Garden as The Queen was returning with Him from his Walk. He talked to Him of making Him his Aid de Camp, & of bringing Him into The Army again. He had also some remaining coolness towards General Goldsworthy, for not executing his Orders in the beginning of his Illness at Windsor. This at times had dwelt with Him afterwards, & it was not this day forgot. These tho' they are slight symptoms, I cannot quite overlook—

This Evening General Gordon on having been asked by H. My. who had succeeded Lord Adam Gordon in Parliament said it was a Mr. Berkley (or Barclay) * On enquiring what Barclay The General said He beleived He was related to the Great Barclay the Quaker— The King with more than common eagerness said “What The Quaker?”

* David Barclay, who eight years previously had bought the brewery of Mr. Thrale, and taken into partnership Perkins, the late Mr. Thrale's manager, started the famous firm of Barclay and Perkins.

I was not the only Person in the room who was struck with this apparent eagerness. Gordon who knew nothing of former histories alluding to it, did not know what it meant, but He remarked it, but as H.My. did not dwell a moment on it, it passed & the conversation continued on other subjects.

On the whole this Evening has not been so good as that of yesterday & on comparing notes with Colonel Digby I found they agreed as to this point—

Tuesday Febry. 24th.

This Morning the favorable Account of the King's health continued. Sir George Baker and Dr. Gisborne were the Physicians in Attendance. The former shewed Me a very curious receipt He had received from abroad through Lord Hervey for The King. There have been many curious receipts of late sent with the same View, but this of all I think the most singular one I have seen. This was to cure the King by communicating the Itch to Him. This by causing irruptions over the Body was through them to carry off the disorder. Another extraordinary receipt was sent by The Duke of Dorset, & attested by Gauthier Physician to The Comte D'Artois— This was to effect the cure by the Blood of an Ass taken inwardly— An improvement to this, proposed from another quarter, was by adding the brains of a Ram, to the blood of the Ass. What astonishing aid & reputation may not be expected in the practice of Physick, from such discoveries as these!!

This Morning The King called on The Queen at Her Apartments & She walked with Him soon afterwards. Previously to this The Duke of Gloucester paid his respect to H.My. who received Him very kindly & embraced Him with much cordiality, & He was invited to join in the Walk, which He did.

The Chancellor & Mr. Pitt came here this day. They both saw The King seperately & both were alone with Him. The Chancellor's Visit was short. Mr. Pitt's was about an hour & a half.

When Mr. Pitt went in, He was resolved to answer the King's questions about public Affairs, & I understood He did so. Mr. Pitt on coming out expressed Himself to General Gordon & to Colonel Digby extremely satisfied with The King's manner & conversation at this Interview. He told Mr. Pitt that "He had no anxieties on the reflexion of what had passed during his Illness, as his Recovery reminded Him how much He owed to God Almighty."

I had an opportunity this day of knowing the general purport of The Kings letter to The Chancellor from one to whom He had shewn it. It acquainted Him that He had had the pleasure of seeing his Sons, The Prince of Wales & The Duke of York, that the meeting had been cordial & most satisfactory & that by his own desire He had seen them in The Queen's Apartment. He expressed a Wish to see Him & Mr. Pitt, & that without entering deeply on business He was anxious to know a little more than He now knew, of what had been doing during his Illness. This was the general purport of The King's Letter to The Chancellor, and most probably a similar one was sent to Mr. Pitt at the same time.

This has been rather a trying day for H.My. & I find from Colonel Digby, that to Him He afterwards appeared hurried, & this I learn likewise from other Quarters.

All this points out the necessity of great caution in bringing on business or other subjects which may be likely to agitate his Mind. There can be no occasion to hurry Him for I know from Himself, that He has wished to go on progressively, & I likewise have understood, that He has dwelt forcibly on this Himself to Mr. Pitt.

This evening We saw H.My. as usual in the Anti-room. He remained but a short time in conversation with Us, as both Dr. Willis & his Son Dr. John Willis by their looks and Manner hurried Him. This He perceived as well as We did, & taking the Hint He left Us soon.

At this Interview He asked Me where I had rode this

day I told Him, I had been in London, on which He immediately recollected a Commission He had given Me on Friday last to get Him some Silver Pencils. I had not forgot it, & I brought Him three of different sizes. These He kept & was pleased to approve of Them.

At seven o'Clock this Evening Mr. Pitt sent a letter to Dr. Willis by a Messenger, the purport of which We were informed was his enquiries how the King continued after his Morning Visits.

Wednesday Febry. 25th.

The Bulletin of this Morning far exceeded all the preceding ones in favorable report, it stated that "His Majesty's progress to Recovery has been gradual & regular for some time past, & His Majesty appears this Morning to be free from complaint."

This Bulletin was signed by Doctor Warren and Doctor Reynolds, I must own the truth, when I saw it, tho' I expected to see a very favorable Bulletin, this was more so, than I had calculated on.

The only question I ask'd, was of Dr. Reynolds; it was this, Whether either He or Doctor Warren when they saw H: Majesty this Morning had seen Him without Dr. Willis or his Son's being in the room at the same time? His Reply to Me was that The Physicians had never yet seen the King alone. On hearing this, I certainly was surprised to see a Bulletin, which said Everything.

Dr. Willis & his Sons, as His Majesty is now declared without complaint, must now expect their speedy dismissal, with that of their Attendants— If this can be done, prudently, all must rejoice.

This Morning The Duke of York rode here— He saw the Queen but not the King. Lord Weymouth & Lord Stafford came here this Morning, by Appointment as I should suppose. We had received hints just before their arrival, that The King had expressed a wish to see Them— They paid their Visit to H. My. seperately, & each staid a considerable time with Him. When they returned

from his Apartment they both expressed much satisfied with this Interview— Lord Stafford observed, that He had found “ The King’s manner composed and his Mind strong ”— Lord Weymouth pleased as He was with this Interview thought that the King was rather more hurried towards the latter part, than He was at first. He is to send the Archbishop of Canterbury on Friday.

Col. L. Digby, who saw H. My. go up Stairs to The Queen after these Visits were over, said that He was evidently agitated, & more so than He had seen Him for some time & He expressed his fears at this time that these Interviews had hurried Him too much. All this seems to confirm not only the propriety but the necessity of continued Caution—

His Majesty walked afterwards, & He was joined in his Walk by Sir Joseph Banks who came here this day by Appointment. They walk’d through Kew Gardens to those of Richmond. I did not see Sir Joseph at his return, but He left a message for Me with General Gordon the purport of which was, that He had been particularly well pleased with The King’s manner during his Walk, & that it was better, than that which He had opportunity of observing some few days ago.

From Dr. John Willis, who walked with the King this Morning, I learnt that He had enter’d on some of the political subjects on which He had been talking with Lord Weymouth & Lord Stafford, this morning, but He did not mention the particulars to Us.

On H. My’s. return this Evening from his Visit to The Queen We saw Him as usual in the Anteroom, He was not the least hurried, He conversed calmly & in his usual manner on variety of subjects to Us all. Talking to General Gordon of the Duke & Duchess of Gordon, He observed the latter & with a significant smile to Him that She was staunch. This gave Me an Insight as to the kind of conversations He had had lately, & that He is now forward in that history which has been kept secret from Him so long.

The Reports spread out from hence to The Public of The King's Amendment & recovery within these late days, will I think very shortly produce great changes here.

If H: My. is declared fit to assume his Government surely the continuance of Dr. Willis & his Son's under this roof would be incompatible with his introduction to The Public again, & his high functions. Should Ministers advise this, they would thereby proclaim to The World, that they do not believe that H. My. is sufficiently well to be trusted to Himself. I think The King is now so near well, that I wish Him (by prudent degrees) every resumption of power & dignity. I long to know that He again sits down to dinner (if his dinner still must be in his own apartment) by Himself, & not forming a trio as He yet does with Dr. Willis & his Son, & who still regularly assist at his Evening Parties.

Thursday Febry. 26th.

The Bulletin of this Morning was that "His Majesty appears to have an entire cessation from Illness"—

Sir George Baker & Sir Lucas Pepys signed the Bulletin. Neither of them saw The King without one of The Doctor Willis's being in the Room.

After breakfast The Duke of York saw The King and likewise The Queen.

This Morning Mr. Pitt was here for several hours during which He first saw The Queen, and after The King returned from his Walk, He saw Him also. This Interview seems to have broke in upon a plan of quiet, which had been proposed for this day, and on which intention, the Visit from the Archbishop of Canterbury was yesterday postponed, until tomorrow Friday.

The Chancellor was also here this Morning for some time. He saw The Queen but not The King.

Late in this day The Prince of Wales arrived. He staid a short time & during which He saw The King & Queen.

His Majesty spent this evening as usual in the Queen's

Apartment & on his return thro' the Antiroom We who were waiting in attendance there had the honor of being spoke to by Him for some time. I was as much pleased with his manner & conversation at this time as ever I had been; both were so much in their usual & natural style, that they afforded general satisfaction and confidence.

I think I perceive this day, that Doctor Willis expects soon to take his leave from hence.

Friday Febr'y. 27th.

This Morning's Bulletin announced "That His Majesty continued free from complaint—"

Doctor Warren who came here this Morning, spoke very favorably of the Interview He had just had with the King, & I now received through Him His Majestys commands to give notice to The Lord in Waiting at St. James's, that The Bulletins after this day would be discontinued. In consequence when I sent off this last Bulletin, I transmitted to The Lord in Waiting the commands I had received for his Information.

Doctor Warren told Me at this time, That The Chancellor had order'd, that an immediate change should take place at Kew in the Medical Attendance.

I conclude Dr. Willis will not stay much longer after this.

From what I have accidentally heard this day I suspect that there is a something in agitation respecting the removal of some of H.Mys Pages, that is they are to be dismissed keeping their Salaries for Life.

The Duke of Cumberland came here this Morning and saw The King. The Archbishop of Canterbury was introduced afterwards to The King with whom He staid an hour & a half.

His Majesty also in the course of this day saw The Generals Grenville & Budé, as Likewise Lord Winchilsea for a short time.

In H.Mys. walk of this Morning He went along the Terrace near The River in his way to the Observatory. As

He passed along, some Men going down the River in a Boat hailed Him with " God Bless Your Majesty, long life & health to You, We are glad to see you abroad again " The King was well pleased with this plain & loyal Address— Pulling off his Hat, He graciously bowed to Them.

This hearty congratulation from a few loyal Men was not indifferent to Him. Its impression on Him marked, that caution towards Him must not be yet overlooked. The shouts of Crouds might be too much for Him just now. His natural feelings are strong, they are not less susceptible now, & tho' it may be said at present, that He is recovered, his Mind should still be supported.

We saw H. My. this evening again on his return through the Antiroom. He spoke to Us some time quite collectedly & as Himself again. I thought Him rather languid but this seemed to be owing to his being somewhat sleepy after all He had gone through in the course of this day.

The King gave Doctor Willis, a Watch by Emery this day.

Saturday Febry. 28th.

This Morning Sir George Baker & Doctor Reynolds came here in conformity to the New regulation & their Report of H: My. was very favorable. The King staid a considerable part of this Morning in the Queen's Apartment, where He saw General Harcourt, who at this time received directions respecting The Pages, & about whom I had yesterday some reason to expect, that some arrangements were devising.

After this business was thus settled Sir Joseph Banks walked with H: My: He brought with Him by his desire the Magazines & Registers which had come out since his Illness. These had been first looked over by the Chancellor; He had no objection to The Kings seeing Them, if Dr. Willis had not, and as He was *d'accord* with the Chancellor, these publications were given to Him for his perusal.

This Evening when H. My, spoke to Us in the Antiroom conversed with as much calmness & propriety as ever He did in his Life—

I have been told this day, that part of the Archbishop of Canterbury's conversation yesterday with His Majesty was directed in endeavors to persuade Him to relinquish an Intention which He had often & strongly hinted, of going to St. Pauls and to be present there at a Public Thanksgiving on His Recovery.

I have picked up also accidentally this day a very curious Anecdote, should it prove a true one & a report— I was told that one of The New Attendants on H. My. lately brought in by Dr. Willis was one of Mr. Fox's Committee at the Westminster Election *— Lord Stafford & Mr. Rose have got scent of it, & if they make it out, this will be a ridiculous introduction to have happen'd from so violent a Partizan against Mr. Fox, as Dr. Willis has pleasure in shewing Himself to be—

Sunday March 1st.

In continued Observance of the New Regulation Dr. Warren & Sir Lucas Pepys saw the King this Morning & both expressed Themselves as having been much pleased with their Visit.

The former thought Him more deliberate in his Conversation than what was his accustomed manner, prior to his Illness that is, He thought He spoke slower, & that He waited longer for answers without interrupting than formerly.

The Duke of York came this Morning He saw The Queen but did not see The King as He was at this time engaged with The Chancellor whose Visit continued long.

His Majesty took his usual Walks this day, & allotted his time nearly as He had done during the preceding days, most of which is now in The Queen's Apartments. He has not yet varied his exercise or his Walks. It has been recommended to Him to go out in His carriage occasionally

* Of May 1784.

& to begin to accustom Himself to those usual Objects out of Doors from which He has been so long estranged. This is probably preparatory to his getting on Horseback.

It was in consultation decided this day that H. My. should be bled, and as He preferred that Mr. Battiscombe should perform this operation, I sent off one of his Grooms to Windsor to fetch Him, & in consequence He came this evening.

After The King had paid his usual Visit to his Family in The Queen's Apartment this Evening, We saw Him in the Antiroom. He was well & I thought improved in looks. His countenance begins to fill up again, & He gains flesh apace. When with Us He was busy comparing some Spectacles which had been sent to Him to look at, & He desired Me to find out which were the clearest, as not using spectacles Myself I could not calculate on the focus's, or numbers suited to various sights— This conversation however brought on a panegyrick from His Majesty on My long sight, & He now recollected some proofs of it, which occurred on board His yatcht, when I had the honor to attend Him to The Nore some years ago, where He went to Meet his Victorious Fleet, just returned after their defeat of The Dutch Fleet off the Dogger Bank—

He alarmed Me much by the conclusion of this conversation, when He was pleased to add, " That I was an excellent Person to have on board, & that He must certainly have Me with Him, if He should take the expedition He was thinking of." I bowed but made no Answer. Had He however looked at Me attentively He might, without Spectacles, have seen, that I was not a Volunteer on such an Expedition.

This if not a real plan, is somewhat of a shade of the not unusual projects of this kind, which have at times intruded during this Illness: & none have been more constant, than the expressions of his determination to go to Hanover, against which Visit, I do most earnestly pray.

This Evening The King has made The Ladies Attendant upon Her Majesty very happy by the gracious presents He has made to Them.

To Lady Charlotte Finch He gave a Pair of Diamond Earrings—To Lady Effingham He gave a Diamond Pin, & to Lady Elizabeth Waldegrave two Diamond Hair Pins.

Monday March 2d.

This is the First Day since His Majesty's Illness begun, that His Physicians have omitted their Accustomed Visits. It is now fixed that every alternate day shall be missed in such attendance—

The Duke of York was here after breakfast & saw the King in the Queen's Apartment.

The Duke of Gloucester was here afterwards for some time but He did not see The King.

Mr. Pitt had a long interview with H: My. this day, & before his Dinner The Prince of Wales arrived & paid a Visit to Their Majesties.

I understand that it is now the Plan that The King should see all the Cabinet by degrees, as likewise many of the Household—

Tomorrow Lord Camden, Lord Caermarthen, Ld. Sydney & The Duke of Richmond are expected.

On account of the coldness of this day, & from his having been bled H.My., did not walk out. He spent most of this day in The Queen's Apartment. We saw him as usual in the evening & He was perfectly calm & collected. Observing some Newspapers on the Table He took up one of Them & dipped a little into the debates of the Irish Parliament, on the Address to The Prince of Wales—Having looked at parts of it, He put the Paper on the Table again, and made no comments on its contents—

Tuesday March 3d.

The Attendant Physicians of this Morning were Sir George Baker and Dr. Gisborne, Both saw H.My.—

Soon after breakfast The Duke of Richmond arrived with Lord Camden. Each had seperate Audiences— Both

expressed Themselves satisfied with H.Mys. conversation and Manner. To Lord Camden He talked of going to Hanover. This I heard with regret. As this has been a subject often hinted during his Illness, I have latterly been diligent in tracing connecting Intentions, & on the whole I am pleased to think, that these have not increased of late. Since his conversation with Me on Sea expeditions on Sunday last, I find that He has been talking with Colonel Digby about ordering his Yatcht to Portsmouth & taking a trip thence to Plymouth & to Mount Edgecombe &c.

On all Sea expeditions I hope He will take a more Useful Sailor than Myself.

After H.My. had received The Duke of Richmond & Lord Camden He walked with The Queen to The Exotic Garden, & during this Interval Major Price arrived. On their Majesties return this arrival was announced, & The King hasten'd to find Major Price & to whom He gave a very cordial reception. With Him & Colonel Digby, attended also with Dr. Willis, He resumed his Walk, leaving The Queen in Her Apartments— This Walk was a long one— He went to The New Workhouse at Richmond to which He had been a most liberal Benefactor. Here He made a luncheon eating a slice of their Household Bread.

A circumstance happened at this time which had it been foreseen, would have given general alarm on H. My's. Account, in respect to its consequences, at a period like this. The Master of the Workhouse, having shewn the Apartments allotted to The Poor in it to H. My., asked Him if He would see their Madhouse. To this He conducted Him, & there passed a conversation respecting it, & in which, the mention of Strait Waiscoats every now & Then was introduced. Fortunately H: My. heard this ill timed conversation without the least agitation, & no unpleasant consequence occurred from the after recollection of it. From The Workhouse The King continued his Walk to Richmond Hill to shew the fine prospect from it to Doctor Willis, and from hence, (as H.My. told Me afterwards) He

indulged Himself with two attentive looks through his Glass, towards Windsor.

From Richmond Hill He walked through the Town of Richmond, & stopped at The Pastry Cook's below the Castle Inn, and eat some of those cheese cakes for which this shop is famous, called usually *Maids of Honour*, & He was happy in making those with Him share in this repast.

On Richmond Green He called at General FitzWilliam's with whom He staid about an hour. The General had in his Service a Harper who He engaged in Wales, having heard Him play there when He was only 11 Years of Age. This Harper plays tolerably well, but less in the Welsh Style than most of his country, having left it so early, not having seen Wales for many years. The Music He now plays is chiefly Handel &c. The King desired He might hear Him, & the General promised to send Him to Kew this evening for that purpose.

On the Kings return from his Walk He saw Lord Carmarthen & Lord Sydney, Each of whom had seperate Audiences. Lord Carmarthen expressed much surprise at H.Mys. recollection.

After his dinner The King took his Walk with Dr. Willis. Passing our Dining Room Windows He saw General Gordon, Major Price, & Myself. He stopped & talked with Us for some time.

In the evening General FitzWilliam's Harper came. He immediately began to tune his Harp in the Hall, on hearing which We left our dining Room and adjourned to it— He began to play to Us; This brought The King from above Stairs to the Hall, where He listen'd to some tunes, & conversed with Us for some time; then taking Major Price by The Arm, He was going with Him up stairs, but looking back, He stop'd & called to Me. On my coming to Him, He put Major Price's arm in his on one side, & My Arm in his on the other & in this manner We walked up Stairs H.My. very graciously observing at this time, that “so supported the Old Man could go on well—”

He thus enter'd The Queen's Apartment, & in this manner He brought Us both up to Her Majesty, to whom We now made our profound obeysance— & which was received— In Silence—

The Harper was next Introduced to The Apartment, and having understood that H: My. was partial to Handel, He had principally brought an assortment of his Music with Him. The King was much pleased with many of the *Airs* which He played during the Evening.

After Major Price & Myself had been some time in The Queen's Apartment We retired.

When H. My. left it We received Him as usual as He passed through the Anteroom. There He conversed with Us some time in good spirits, yet I must fairly own I could not think as favorably of his Manner this Night, as I had done for several preceding ones, & I found from General Gordon that his remarks tallied with Mine.

Tho' I am satisfied that H. My. is going on well, I do not yet wish Him to beleive that He is quite so. Risk is still closely connected with Agitation. He must be kept from flurry, & He must Himself for some time continue to be prudent, & much on his guard. Every observation I make, inclines Me to Wish that He may not yet come too forward, either in Business or Amusement— The acclamations of a Croud might be hazardous. Kindness might upset Him, for He is naturally susceptible of its Impressions, & these to a mind relaxed by Illness, may eventually become dangerous.

I find H. My. has not yet given up the Wish & Intention of going to St. Pauls. He has mentioned it this very day, & if I recollect right, it was to Lord Camden. Aware however that caution was necessary, He added that He should prepare for this ceremony, by something similar, in a less croud at Windsor—

Wednesday March 4th.

His Majesty saw Mr. Pitt this Morning after his breakfast and afterwards He received the Duke of Montague

& Lord Aylesbury, In the course of this Morning also came The Archbishop of Canterbury with The Bishop of Gloucester, but neither saw The King.

When He walked out afterwards, He saw The Bishop of Salisbury, & Sir Joseph Banks who attended Him to The Exotic Garden, & where H. My. saw also Mrs. Barrington, The Bishop of Durham's Wife.

The Chancellor was likewise at Kew this Morning. He first saw The Queen & afterwards His Majesty. From The Chancellor I learnt, that no particular reason had been assigned to Him by H. My. for dismissing some of his Pages, only, that from the manner in which they had been obliged to attend on Him during his illness, they had obtained a sort of familiarity, which now would not be pleasing to Him. I learnt also at this time, that by some mistake, The Five last Attendants which Dr. Willis had called in, were dismissed instead of those whom He had brought with Him from his Establishment in the Country, & which The Chancellor had intended should have been the first on the List of Removals from their attendance on His Majesty.

The Arrival of Colonel Manners this day in regular succeeding Waiting as Equerry to His Majesty, releived Me from My long Waiting as such, of sixteen Weeks, excepting the interruption of about 10 days, during which time I have witnessed many very embarrassing & variety of extraordinary Scenes. A Waiting so different from all I have hitherto been used to, that much shall I rejoice, to return to the more simple duties of an Equerry, uninterrupted by His Majesty's Illness & unannoy'd by those Party Feuds on jarring politics, which have been so improperly maintained *by some* within the Walls of Kew Palace, since His Majesty was removed to it from Windsor.

To The King I owe the fullest acknowledgement of his uniform kindness, nay Affection towards Me, whether in his turbulent, or in his Calm moments— but I do not feel that expressions of equal Obligation are due from Me, in some other Quarters.

The former have fixed my lasting love & gratitude. The

latter will never alter a respect due from Me. & in which I have *at no time* been deficient—

The Situation in which I was placed gave Me opportunity of knowing much, & seeing much, & in the course of painful & distressing periods, the Information I possess'd might have been usefully extended to some few, who had a right to ask it of Me—but in such directions to which I now allude, it was not asked for of Me. Mr. Pitt in all his Visits here never once enquired for Me, nor did He ask information from Me, but not unfrequently He returned from hence with details less accurate, than those which plainer matter of fact, within his ready reach, might have afforded Him.



Adelphi, London, 1791, 1792.

By permission of Lady Gunning

PLATE COMMEMORATING GEORGE III'S ESCAPE FROM ASSASSINATION AND
RECOVERY FROM HIS ILLNESS

Portrait by Collins, Allegory by R. Corbault, Engraving by Bartolozzi

STAG CHACES AND OTHER HUNTING
ANECDOTES *

* These probably all took place in 1794.

I. STAG CHACE FROM KINGSTON ON THAMES TO THE GREENLAND DOCKS.—

Among the remarkable Stag Chaces at which I have had the honor of being present as Equerry to The King & in attendance on Him, are the following—

His Majesty intending to go from The Queen's House to The Queen's Lodge at Windsor gave directions to turn out a Stag that Morning, close to Kingston upon Thames.

The selection of this place was to assist the chances of the Chace leading Him towards Windsor, & for this Purpose the Stag was let out of the Cart in sight of the Thames, & on the London side of Kingston.

On leaving the Deer Cart the Stag shewed no Impatience, but with slow step and with careful Eye He survey'd the Spot around, & the Croud,—Numerous Spectators on Foot besides many Horsemen prepared for the Hunt, were behind Him, & the River was clear and open to Him in front—

Nothing could urge his decision to cross the Thames, & when the Croud pressed on Him to force his choice He suddenly faced Them and at full speed found opening between Them & went off for Coombe Woods, then by Wimbledon shaping his course eastward He skirted Vauxhall & traversed many Garden Grounds in its neighbourhood. Thence He edged towards the River on the skirts of the Borough, and afterwards found his Way to The Greenland Docks, where He was secured by the Sailors—

His Majesty thus baffled in his original calculations which He had made when He begun his Hunt from Kingston, rode back from the Greenland Docks to the Queens House, whence taking fresh Horses, He continued a smart ride to

Windsor—Fortunately I had time to procure fresh Horses from My Stables at the King's Mews, & was thus enabled to start again with His Majesty on this second Alert from the Queen's House, and whereby My Hunter was saved from an unreasonable exertion which otherwise He must have undertaken without delay.—

II. A REMARKABLE DAY'S SPORT.

A Stag was turned out at the Crooked Billet near Bulstrode—

The chase began smartly and in the direction of Beaconsfield—& in sight of the residence of Mr. Edmund Burke near it—

The Deer was taking his course gallantly through that country when a Farmer's Dog pursued & turned Him—He now ran towards Windsor, & crossing the Thames at Surley Hall, He then made the best of His way by Winkfield Plain to Ascot Race Ground & from whence finding out his Old Pastures He hung upon the Paddocks at Swinley & in to which He was let in—

This run from near Beaconsfield to the Paddock at Swinley was very rapid, & without a check, the consequence of which was that it was over about mid-day—

A Fresh Stag was turned out from the Paddocks and Lord Hinchinbrooke the Master of His Majesty's Stag Hounds, & some of the Yeoman Prickers, with Johnston the Huntsman profiting by the advantage of being now at home, got fresh Horses, & a few couple of fresh hounds, releived those which had most suffered in the late severe burst. Lord Spencer Hamilton who at this time resided near Swinley in the Forest, got also a fresh Horse from his Stables.

His Majesty, & his attendant Grooms riding Horses ready to releive his, should change become necessary, continued on to this fresh Sport—By accident, (not frequent

with Me) I went out from Windsor this morning with only one Good Hunter, & without My Groom—I was thus left to the stoutness of my well tried Chesnut Hunter, & I rode Him singly throughout this very trying day, and He kept Me always in My place——

This fresh Deer from the Paddocks at Swinley, (bred in Richmond Park,) thus suddenly turned out, led us a very trying & severe chace, taking the country towards Oakingham, & by Reading— In the course of the Chace, He then went through the Old Roman Work at Silchester, & beyond it, late in the Evening he was stopped by a Farmer's Dog, who seized Him in a deep Mirey Lane.

I had much pleasure during this severe Chace, to see several Horses which had begun it fresh from Swinley, completely knocked up, & left behind—Amongst these were Lord Hinchinbrookes', Lord Spencer Hamilton's and Jewel's The Yeoman Pricker's—

His Majesty attended by Myself, his Old Groom Snart, & two Grooms made for Hartford Bridge after the Stag was taken, & which was a few Miles distant—

On our arrival a Hack Chaise & Four was instantly ordered, & off His Majesty went in it, attended only by Me, his Equerry, for Bagshot— At Bagshot We changed Horses & Chaise, & proceeded on from thence to The Queen's Lodge at Windsor in a dark night—& where We arrived late in the Evening without check or interruption—

In these times His Majesty frequently returned home after long chaces, & at a distance from home, in Hack Chaises, & with no other attendance than His Equerry in Waiting—

In latter periods, Two of H. M.^s Grooms mounted on Post Horses attended the Carriage on these occasions, but this never occurred in My time—

This new regulation was certainly a very prudent one, on many accounts, & especially when Accidents or interruptions were not of fair calculation. Nor indeed was an occasional Visit from a Highwayman in these parts quite out of the Question. On one occasion I remember this

Event was very near happening. His Majesty took a Post Coach & Four from Uxbridge, after a long & late chace, for Windsor. In the Coach was His Majesty, The Duke of Cambridge, His Aide de Camp Wangenheim, & Myself—

Another Carriage with some of the Sportsmen, followed Us soon after from Uxbridge, & which was stopped by Highwaymen on Langley Brown, a very short time after His Majesty's Carriage had passed it—

When going from Bagshot to Windsor after changing Horses there from Hartford Bridge I heard His Majesty busy about something but as it was quite dark, I could not ascertain what occupied Him—It was not long e'er He told Me what He had been doing—He happen'd at this time to have with Him a favorite Watch & which, on considering possible chances on the road He was concealing in a safer place, than that, which usually secured it in his Fob—

III. MARLOW TOM

An extraordinary circumstance which occurred at the close of a Stag Chace, & at which I was present in attendance on The King as His Equerry.

After a smart Chace the Stag came towards Marlow, & very near to that Town it leapt into Mrs. Freeman's Garden, when following the gravel Walk, it was checked by the House at the end of it, & which had a Flanking Wall on each side of the Steps of the entrance into the Mansion.

The Huntsman & Hounds pressing on, brought the poor Animal to instant decision to save his life. He leaped over one of these flanking Walls which was Seven feet high & disappeared on the other side. His down drop was deep, and into a paved Court near the Kitchen—

No fracture was the consequence of this fall. The Stag moved on, & creeping under the return of a Staircase, there laid down & quietly awaited its fate.

Many soon crouded to the Spot, wondering at the Stag's escape, after such a fall— Immediate calculations were

made as to the height of the Wall on this side— H. M. said nothing, but I observed He was paying close attention to its height— At length He said it was above 15 feet—A line was instantly procured, & H. M.^s calculations proved correct—

In his ride home to Windsor The King told Me how He had made his calculation—He had counted the courses of Brick, and as He knew the usual breadth of a Brick, He had thus made a very close guess.

This Stag from this extraordinary fall, became famous in latter history, for the many gallant Chaces He afterwards afforded under the name of *Marlow Tom*.

Often Stags kept for His Majesty's Hunt obtained names & celebrity from particular events connected with the Chace— Besides *Marlow Tom*, there were now *High Flyer*, *The Popham Lane Deer*, *Moonshine* &c—

High Flyer was so called after the remarkable leap He made into the *Home Park* at Windsor, over the Park Wall near Datchet Bridge, when after crossing this Park He leaped out of it again & extended the Chace into the Great Park & Windsor Forest—

The *Popham Lane Deer* was so named from his having been taken after a very long & severe chace Near Popham Lane—

Moonshine obtained this name from its persevering Chace & which He extended 'till He outran the day & was taken by *Moonlight*.

IV. HIS MAJESTY'S FALL.

In the many years I had the honor of attending His Majesty (Sixteen years & a half) as His Equerry, I had the good fortune never to see Him thrown, but once—and that was, when He was on his Way from the Queen's Lodge to Amersham, near which place the Stag was to be turned out that Morning. The country at this time was very deep & dirty after continued rains. Near the Windmill at Salt Hill His Majesty, then proceeding on his road at a hand gallop, attended by Myself as His Equerry, & his Grooms only, His Horse by chance threw forward some dirt which splashed in some water on the road before Him—The King's Horse startled, & suddenly checked in his pace, hung back; By this H. M. was somewhat thrown out of his Seat, & his chances of recovering Himself were interrupted, by his having at the moment, accidentally touched his Horse with his Spur, & who instantly made a smart jerk forward, & by which H. M: having completely lost his balance, fell on the road, but fortunately quite clear of his Horse. I was at this time immediately behind the King, who instantly got up, & assured Us all He was not in the least hurt, & there He gave the strictest injunction, that none of Us should mention that He had had a fall—On this He remounted his Horse and observing that He was above Himself said He would settle Him by a smart ride to Amersham—which He did, & at this place He mounted his Hunter and He particularly enjoyed the good Sport of the day— The Chace over, His Majesty rode back to Windsor—

When I was dressing, The Queen's first Page Mr. Albert came to My Room at the Queen's Lodge, with

a command from Her Majesty to wait on Her in Her Apartment—I obeyed this command as expeditiously as I could, when on entering Her Majesty's Apartment She thus addressed Me “Sir, I hear the King has had a fall today and I wish to have Your Account of it—”

With the full recollection at this moment of His Majesty's very strict injunction not to mention to anyone his having had a fall I own I was not a little puzzled with Her Majesty's question, & which She has now addressed to Me with much earnestness— Prompt decision, inclined Me not to be influenced on this occasion by the Old Adage viz., “That truth was not to be spoke at all times” Off hand I therefore answered, that I perceived Her Majesty had been informed that The King had had a fall that day, but as He truly was not hurt, He had given a very strict injunction, that the circumstance should not be mentioned to anybody, but that now from what Her Majesty had said, I was ready to obey Her Commands— The Queen then desired Me to mention accurately how it had happened, & the particulars. All this I did, and to which I expressed the satisfaction I had, in being enabled to make the further Statement, that The King in real truth had not been hurt by his fall, & that I had never seen Him enjoy the after sport of the day, with more pleasure than He had done—

Her Majesty was pleased to express her satisfaction at the Account I had thus given & in this manner this Interview was concluded.

I had no opportunity but by guess, to calculate how the Queen had obtained Her information, but all things considered, I had but little doubt, that She had it from the King Himself—

His Majesty at another time had an accident more Alarming— During a Stag Chace, & when attended by Major Price at that time one of his Equerrys & at this time in Waiting— When crossing the Mill Dam in Blackwater His Majesty's Horse frightened at the rush of Water, gave a sudden and violent start, & threw H. M. into the Pool Tho' not out of his depth, H. M: in the first

Instance disappeared under the Water— His Faithful Equerry Major Price * instantly dashed in, & laying hold of the King, supported Him, not however before He had swallowed some Water and was become a little confused. No serious consequence however ensued, & thus so promptly extricated, His Majesty was very soon Himself again— He remounted his Horse and rode Home—

Some time after, when I had the honor of attending H. M^y in waiting, in the course of the Chace, the Stag at one time seemed intending for Blackwater, but afterwards slanting from it, He took another direction.

The King in the course of the day told Me, He had had a glimpse of Black Water and added, “ that He did not like it—”

* Major Price was Nephew to The Bishop of Durham an excellent & Most Worthy Man— He was one of My Fast Bosom Friends through Life— The other Three were Lord Heathfield—Colonel Newton—Gen^l Cartwright & these Three B^t Officers of Mine in the 10th Dragoons—R.F.G.



H. M. KING GEORGE III RETURNING FROM HUNTING
From the picture by Pollard, Jan., engraved by M. Dubourg

MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES
in the Year 1795 to

Caroline Amelia Elizabeth Daughter of
THE DUKE OF BRUNSWICK

Immediately preceding this Event I received from The King, as well as from His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, the honor of being nominated "Gentlemen of Honor" to His Royal Highness on this occasion.

Copy of a Letter from His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales to Me.

"Dear Sir

"His Majesty's commands are in consequence of a Letter He has received from Lord Malmsbury that the Attendants & Carriages should be ready to set off for Greenwich tomorrow Morning at Eleven o'Clock precisely.

"His Majesty thinks that the Horses had better rest for an hour or thereabouts, so as to contrive that The Princess should arrive at St. James's at three o'Clock.

"You will be so good My Dear Sir to give all the necessary Orders upon this Occasion."

"I am

Dear Sir

Very Sincerely Yours

Signed "George P: "

"Queen's House

April 3^d 1795.

"The Hon.^{ble} Robt. F: Greville."

I punctually obey'd the commands convey'd to Me by the above Letter from H.R.H: The Prince of Wales & I arrived at Greenwich Hospital, with His Majesty's Car-

riages & with the Attendants, in full & in punctual time the next Morning.

On my arrival at Greenwich I was informed that a baffling Tide would prevent the arrival of Princess Caroline that day, as was expected & intended, & shortly after, I received a letter from Commodore Payne & of which the following is a copy.

My Dear Sir

The numerous dispatches that have been issued from hence in the course of this day will apprize His Majesty accurately of our Situation. In case they should not reach you I have to add that, as the Wind now is, which You know to be an inconstant Element to depend upon, I hope to be at Greenwich a little after noon. I shall leave this place at eight o'Clock on the turn of Tide, & I have the best founded hopes of being at Greenwich about One o'Clock at farthest.

I am, with great regards
Your sincere & Faithful Humble Servant
Signed—W^m Payne.

4th April—8 P.M:

The Hon^{ble} Robert F. Greville.

Tho' Thus accurately acquainted with the existing circumstances of the unavoidable delay, I decided not to take any Steps Myself in consequence, fully trusting to His Majesty's invariable punctuality in communicating his own commands in his own Arrangements.

In due time in the course of this day I received a Letter from the King and of which the following is a Copy.

“ Queen's House
April 4th 1795.

“ On returning from Kew I have received the letter from Lord Malmsbury brought by Major Hislop acquainting Me that The Princess Caroline, will not embark on

board the Yacht until tomorrow Morning and proceed to Greenwich, I therefore acquaint Mr. Greville, that He may bring back the Ladies to Town, & return with Them tomorrow in time to receive The Princess at Greenwich."

Signed

"GEORGE R."

On the morrow of the 5th of April 1795 in obedience to His Majesty's commands, I arrived at Greenwich Hospital at the appointed time with The Ladies in Attendance & with His Majesty's Carriages.

In the course of the morning The Yacht, with The Princess Caroline and the rest of the Vessels under the command of Commodore Payne anchored off Greenwich. The Princess disembarked at the Stairs of Greenwich Hospital, & after taking some refreshments at the Governor's House, Her Royal Highness attended by The Countess of Jersey, Lord Malmsbury and Myself, enter'd the King's Carriage, proceeded to London, & alighted at the Apartments prepared for Her in St. James's Palace, followed by the rest of the Attendance in other Royal Carriages.

On the arrival of The Princess I went to the Queen's House where I had the honor of seeing His Majesty and making an immediate report to Him.

The Prince of Wales paid an early Visit to The Princess Caroline after Her arrival at Saint James's Palace, where H.R.H. dined with a small selected Party, and to which first dinner, of Their Royal Highnesses, I had the honour to be invited.

At the subsequent Marriage Ceremonial which very shortly after took place, I had the honor of attending H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to the Altar in the Chapel Royal at St. James's.

With this Ceremony my duties as Gentleman of Honor to The Prince of Wales closed, & with Them, at this time my Appointment ceased likewise.

On retiring from the Altar, The Prince of Wales gave to the Earl of Harcourt Master of the Horse to the Queen,

his Hat, with a rich diamond Button and Loop—& took Lord Harcourt's Hat from Him in exchange—

The occasion of this Valueable present was never explained—His Lordship at this time was in Waiting on The Queen, as Her Master of the Horse.

THE THIRD DIARY (1794)

(THE KING AT WEYMOUTH)

WEYMOUTH

At a subsequent period His Majesty made Weymouth a frequent Summer Residence attended by The Queen and the Princesses— They resided in Gloucester Lodge¹ & which was fitted up for Them *

I was frequently in Waiting on The King during his residence at Weymouth with The Queen, & then I with others of the few attendants who were then ordered on Duty, was through Their Majesties gracious condescension and kindness included in the Family, and We had the honor of dining every day at The King's Table, in Gloucester Lodge.

I always attended His Majesty in his Rides, & also when He went on board, on sailing excursions, & which were very frequent,** and for which purpose a small squadron was stationed off Weymouth during the time that His Majesty & The Royal Family remained there; to contribute to Their Majesties recreation, as well as to extend protection from the Bay, to Weymouth.

The first Frigate Attendant on His Majesty at Weymouth was *The Southampton* Cap^{tn}. Forbes; with Him was *The Cormorant* Sloop of War The Hon^{ble} Cap^{tn} Boyle etc.

In after periods Cap^{tn} Sir Harry Neale in H.M. Frigate *The St. Fiorenzo*, had the Command of the Squadrons ordered in attendance on His Majesty when at Weymouth, & then

¹ Now the Gloucester Hotel.

* Some years after, The King purchased Gloucester Lodge.—RFG

** Their Majesties 1st excursion to Weymouth was in the Year 1789— They were repeated in the years—1794—1799—1800 1801—1804—1805.—RFG

He had the honour of receiving His Majesty on board this fine Frigate whenever He was pleased to take a short cruize in the Bay— Latterly Sir Harry Neale took the command of *The Queen Charlotte*, & next of *The Royal Sovereign* Yatchts, the former of which releived *The St. Fiorenzo* Frigate on the Weymouth duty, and in consequence Their Majesties afterwards continued their accustomed Sea Excursions, in the above mentioned Yatchts, & always with Sir Harry Neale.

The Royal Sovereign was the last ship in which His Majesty sailed when at Weymouth, & this was in the y^r 1805.

Attendant Frigates &c. were attached to *The St. Fiorenzo*, & The two Royal Yatchts, when stationed in Weymouth Bay under the command of Cap^{tn} Sir Harry Neale Bart. & among the Ships so stationed were, *The Cambrian* of 50 G^s The Honble Captⁿ Arthur Legge, *The Anson* of 50 Guns Captⁿ Durham & The Frigates *The Chiffone* Captⁿ Adam, & *The Diamond* Captⁿ Elphinstone, and part of these attended the Ship which carried the Royal Standard at her maintop Mast Head.

Portland Island.

The King is Lord of The Manor of this Island. During one of His residences at Weymouth, He gratified the Loyal Islanders, by honoring Them with a Visit as Lord of The Manor.

He was received in all due & respectful form, and with as distinguished ceremony as their means afforded. The Queen, The Prince of Wales, & the Princesses were with the King on this Occasion.

After walking from Portland Castle to Chissel (*sic*) Town Their Majesties with Their Family, dined at the Portland Arms, in the small romantic Village of Chisleton?—& their usual attendants at Gloucester Lodge, were graciously invited to their Table at the Portland Arms—At this place, what was called An Antient Reeve Pole * was shown to His

* Of Wood, several feet long—& fully engraved in old figures and characters.—R.F.G.

Majesty—& I had an opportunity of looking at this antient curiosity. It is said to be of Saxon Origin; By it formerly the Bailiffs of this Island kept account of the Manor dues & on which every Acre of Land belonging to The Manor was marked on the Reeve Pole.**

Monday August 11th 1794—

This morning I sett out for Windsor to attend a gracious Summons to The Queens Fete at the Castle on the Prince of Wales's Birthday which was to be kept on this day instead of the 12th. A longer absence from town than this attendance would have brought on, was occasioned by my being obliged to go to Weymouth to attend His Majesty for some weeks at this place. I experienced therefore this Morning many hurries & some regrets the cheif of which I felt yesterday. By twelve o'Clock however I took my departure with My Friend Lord Heathfield * who had also received a summons to the Festivities of the Day. On the road We saw many bustling on, on the same errand. Among them near Windsor We overtook the Dss. of R—t—d † in Her Phaeton.

Dined & in the Evening saw His Majesty who in the most gracious manner announced to Me, that He was to have my Brother Charles as His Vice Chamberlain.

At eight o'Clock assembled at the Castle. This Ball began in the Armory. The number of Dancers small. At Twelve o'Clock supped in St. Georges Hall. Two Tables extending the length of this fine Hall & handsomely set out & lighted up, made a very striking appearance. After supper the ball begun again & lasted till half past Three when the Company dispersed & retired—

** This Visit of the King in fuller ceremonial as Lord of the Manor of Portland Island was in the year 1804.—R.F.G.

* The second and last Lord Heathfield, son of the famous defender of Gibraltar. At this time he was a Major-General in the army and Lieut.-Colonel in the 6th (or Inniskilling) Regt. of Dragoons.

† Mary Isabella Somerset, youngest daughter of Charles 4th Duke of Beaufort, married Charles 4th Duke of Rutland 1775.

Tuesday Augst. 12—

Rose at our usual hour—Breakfasted a little after Nine. About ten attended His Majesty a quiet ride of some hours thro' part of the Forest & thro' His Norfolk & Flemish Farms—a most lovely day. In the Evening walked on the Terrace, from it saw the setting sun in the greater beauty. This Evening on the Terrace saw Miss Ives the famous Spinner; was introduced to Her & begun my acquaintance by a profusion of Questions, She has spun ninety five miles in length from one Pound of Wool. She says it is not bad Spinning to extend the Thread from one Pound of Wool sixty miles. Seventy Miles is finer spinning than Common. She prefers the Lincolnshire Wool— She is Self taught, & learnt originally from an old Picture She saw—

This day sent My Horses from Windsor on their journey to Weymouth—The King leaves Windsor tomorrow—Evening cards as usual in the Castle—

Wednesday Augst 13th

Abt. 7 o'Clock this Morn'g. Walked thro' the Garden with His M. to the Stables. His Horses had set out for Weymouth abt. six o'clock. Look'd at those which remained at Home. Return'd to the Queen's Lodge when His M. took Me with Him to His library & conversed with Me on various subjects till it was time to go to Chapel. Went with His M^y & Pss. Augusta to Chapel & return'd to the Queen's Lodge to Breakfast. After Breakfast His Majesty sett out in His Chaise for His Levée in Town. I called on Dr. Lind in Windsor where I saw Miss Ives who I found spinning with Her distaff a finer thread than any other Person in this Kingdom has yet ever been able to accomplish— To satisfy the enquiries of an absent Friend I took a long lesson from Miss Ives, & never did she give instruction which was more attentively listen'd to. I hope my Friend will profit by My report, & if I can but explain

properly I am perfectly satisfied that She will do ample justice to the art of fine Spinning.

When at Dr. Lind's I saw a very handsome flowering Plant whose Botanical name is *Hydrangea Hortensia*— It has large cluster Flowers & continues in bloom many weeks—From Dr. Lind's I walked to the King's Farm in the Home Park & continued my speculations on subjects connected with the distaff. The object of my Visit was to look at the Flock of Spanish Rams— There were here this day thirty four full grown Rams & thirty this years lamb Rams, all of the true Spanish Breed. The distribution which His M. is graciously pleased to make through his Kingdom of these Rams to improve the general quality of the Wool, being at hand, I looked over the grown Flock with attention as It had been intrusted to Me to chuse two for a Friend of Mine for whom His H. had given very particular directions that She should have the first choice from the Flock after those reserved for Himself should be fixed upon—

Return'd thro' the Queens Garden at Frogmore & looked at the new Ruins erecting in the Gardens ; These are executed & with great taste by Mr. Wyatt. Here I saw a very late invention from Birmingham & one quite new for the Covering of Houses, for Pipes &c. It is thin Sheets of Iron plated with lead. It comes very cheap & Mr. Wyatt approves of the invention. He recommends giving it one coat of Paint when made use of. The Copper plates cover'd with Tin, I think I like best.

No Terrace this Evening which is not usual. His Majesty did not return till a very late Hour for Him viz. at 10 m. after Nine. An unusual press of business previous to His departure for Weymouth had detained Him. He very graciously communicated two very pleasing articles of intelligence The one was a strong report & beleived, that Robespierre had been put to death,* The other that *The Romney* of 50 gs. had taken the *Sybil* french

* Robespierre was executed on July 28th, 1794.

Frigate of 46 guns after an Action of 1 hour & 10 minutes in the Mediterranean.*

The usual card Parties at the Castle finished the amusements of this day.

August 14th. 1794.

The first duties of this Morning was to the Chapel where I attended Her Majesty & Pss. Elizabeth.— After Breakfast rode out with His Majesty & the Prince of Wales & Prince Ernest— Our ride extended thro' the Park to the Flemish Farm, thence out on the Forest & back again into the Park to the Norfolk Farm, out of Bishop Gate, & return'd thro' Old Windsor. In this ride His Majesty in the most gracious manner possible mentioned My Brother having kiss'd Hands as His Vice Chamberlain, & inform'd Me of the conversation He had had with Him, which marked in the kindest manner his attention also to his private situation. Among other things He advised Him to keep His present House at Paddington † as it was a convenient one to Him & as it held His collection so well & hinted to Him that He should avail Himself of the apartment I kept for Him in My House in Town to dress for Court & to sleep at, when kept late on his Waitings. An arrangement which He added He was sure I would be much pleased should take place, & in this He certainly was not mistaken.

A little before dinner this day, My Brother Charles arrived. He dined with us & in the evening He appeared on the Terrace where He had an opportunity of making His bow to His Majesty & the Royal Family. He was very kindly received by His Majesty & in the most flattering manner. The Pss also gave Him hearty congratula-

* The *Romney* 50-gun ship under Captain Hon. Wm. Paget captured the French ship *Sybille* of 45 guns off the island of Miconi in the Mediterranean on July 17th. The *Romney* was only able to fire 25 guns against the *Sybille's* 28.

† This was a small house in Paddington Green which Charles Greville had taken in 1782 so that he could the more quietly and the more economically keep his mistress Emma Hart. In 1791 she married his uncle, Sir William Hamilton.

tion as did also the Prince of Wales who introduced Him to His Br. Prince Ernest. I was quite happy that My Br. had paid this mark of Attention to His Majesty which was so much due to Him, & which was the object of His expedition from Town as the King's departure tomorrow for Weymouth could not have permitted such an opportunity for Weeks.

We retired early this Evening as We are to sett off soon after four o'Clock tomorrow. Just as I was retiring to rest I heard by chance that a Friend of Mine had been heard of from Cowes, That She was well, & that Her charge was going on better even than She had expected & that My Friend had been driving Her out—

August 15th.

All was bustle in the Queen's Lodge at a very early Hour—our orders were to be ready with the Carriages at half after four— In consequence was called at Three o'Clock. A Quarter after three o'Clock His M. walked down to His Stables, but this was so unexpected & so much before the hour He had order'd that nobody attended Him. He called Prince Ernest & some of the Psss. a little after Three o'Clock, & abt. the same time He came to Genl Goldsworthy's Room. As He afterwards told us He did not call on Price & Myself because He knew We should be punctual to our time. At Half past Four exactly the whole sett off from the Queen's Lodge for Weymouth—in four Post Coaches & Four. Nothing particular occurr'd during our rapid journey, & the same loyalty as has always been usual on this road was fully shewn this day to the Royal Family as they pass'd. At several Towns Troops in Quarters, & others on their March turn'd out—at Bagshot some Companies of the 84th Regt.—at Basingstoke some Companies of the 32 & 84th—at Andover 500 of the — Regt. lately from Ireland—At Salisbury the 34th Regt. complete except their Flank Companies which are in the West Indies—At Dorchester a detachment of the Royals & at Weymouth the Bucks Militia, a very fine Regt.

At Hertford Bridge Their M: & Pss.s stopped & took a short breakfast. At Basingstoke our Party divided—The Kings Carriage & that of the Elder Pss.s struck off to the left & went the Stockbridge Road & Andover, We proceeded by Overton to Andover. At the junction of the two roads before We reached Andover the two parties were in sight of each other our Carriages ahead abt. half a Mile—We slacken'd pace & allow'd the other Carriages to take again their place ahead. At Salisbury We drove to the Bishop of Salisbury's where He had prepared a very elegant Cold Collation & a profusion of good fruit. On leaving Salisbury, Harnham Hill was cover'd with people, who huzza'd us as their M^s pass'd. The number here was so great that had We not seen crouds in the Streets of Salisbury one could have imagined that the Town had been strip'd of all its Inhabitants to spread them over Harnham Hill. At Dorchester His Majesty's Horses succeeded to the Post Horses which hitherto had drawn us, & conducted us to Weymouth where We arrived at 12 M. after Four o'Clock, having gone 113 Miles in 11 hours 23 M. without reckoning our delays at Hertford Bridge & at Salisbury.

In many parts of this road I have retraced my latter recollections of it, & from the Hill above Upway I reconnoitred spots not unexplored by My Friend. On our arrival The detachment of the Royal Drag^s & the Bucks Militia with their Feild peices were drawn up to receive Their Majestys & soon after the Battery at the Look out & The *Southampton* Frigate Salut'd. A small battery belonging to the Volunteer Weymouth Artillery Company fired their salute also. To some Sailors unpracticed in their art an unpleasant accident happen'd one had his Arm shot off * & another wounded by the wading.

There was here besides the *Southampton*, (but out of sight in Portland Road) Capt. Dauvergne's, or the Prince of Bouillon's Black Squadron which consisted of the *Non-such* of 64 cut down, as a floating Battery & mounting

* This man is since dead of His wounds—RFG

20—68^{pdrs.} on one deck beside 24 Pounders & Six dutch built gun boats. He was waiting for a Wind to carry Him to Spithead from whence He is bound as I believe on some expedition.*

Soon after Their Majesties' arrival, dinner was announced or as the term is His M: "is set" Golds^y Price & Myself have the honor of dining at His Table while here, & the hurries of this day obliged us to dine there in a dress rather unusual at such a Table, viz in boots, a liberty which we took only by command, & by example which His M. set us. After dinner His Majesty walked on the Parade & thro' the Town to His Stables, where We found all our horses safe arrived.

In the Evening we were dismiss'd early to recover from the hurries of the day. But the absence of our Serv^{ts} who did not arrive this Evening by some unaccountable accident, or I should rather suppose negligence, gave us much embarrassment in arranging our new habitations &c—This evening a comfortable Letter cheer'd Me, & interested Me much. The Chaplain of the Bucks Militia We found in High health & spirit walking on the Parade. He was very useful to His M. in his enquiries after many People He saw on the Parade. The watchman is calling "past 12 o'Clock & all well," so good night My very good Friend. Peaceful slumbers be upon you.

Augst. 16th.

I occupied last night a very small apartment & resign'd a more distinguished one. I own I was seduced by the View it commanded from its single Little Window towards the Sea which overbalanced many inconveniencies, & deprived the other apartment of My choice. The King was out at seven o'Clock & walked to Delamottes (the usual rendezvous of this Place) afterwards examined the Floating Bath, called at Mr. Flewart's whom He surprised in a

* Captain Philip d'Auvergne, Prince de Bouillon, was formerly first lieutenant of the celebrated frigate *The Saucy Arethusa*.

negligent dishabille, in slippers & an easy flowing night gown. He afterwards called at the Stables & ordering His Horse after Breakfast returned to Gloucester Lodge. Our mornings ride has been quiet & long. We went first to Upway Village which I think pretty & I like on old acc^{ts} called at Mr. Gould's—Part of the fun of this visit was to see if He would recollect Me, not having seen Me since I bought my Cornetcy of Him twenty-six years ago. He would have been puzzled to know Me had He not been helped out. He retraced me fairly afterwards, & said when He last saw Me I was very slim, & that I was not near so tall as I was now. All this was true, as was that I was grown plumper, & more He might fairly have added to his comparison of the two periods had He been so inclined. At Upway His Majesty drank of its fine Spring at the Fountain Head a pleasanter Water far than that which He had desired Me to take at the adjacent mineral Spring (Nottingham Spring) which resembles in smell as well as in taste the Harrowgate Water. From Upway we continued our ride some way on the Bridport Road then going over the Down came unto Maiden Castle & to Monkton thence going over the High downs among the Barrows descended & return'd on the Beach towards Lullworth & by then home. Dined as usual in high state & after which returned to our House to Tea & finished our Evening with Cards in their Majesties Apartment.

This day arrived The *Farrel* Sloop which made a little addition of strength to our little Squadron. Signals from the Ships & shore have been this day settled, & Gloucester Lodge is render'd as secure as circumstances permit & make necessary. There are constant Patrols all night round it. The Dragoons extend their Patrols further & are attentive round the Back Water, & to the Beach & Bridge towards Lullworth. The Bucks Militia add also to the security of the further side of the Back water, & this sentries Patrol along the Esplanade & have a Captⁿ's Guard all night near the Lodge. The Frigate & Sloops furnish armed boats who row abt. all night. Every

precaution seems proper to prevent invasion which is by no means unlikely to be offer'd— Perhaps the place would be more secure from it, if some small Vessels were to be station'd to watch the Bay at the Back of the Chissel Bank & others should keep out in the Offing as far & as late as they could in the Evening & then return, which look out would make it very difficult for any Vessels intended for this place to reach it before day light should discover their motions. The Battery at the Look out is a strong one & is well placed & supplied with Ammunition. This is an other good security & would prospect the Bay & scower the Beach very effectively.

These are the advantages of the means of defence & protection which have been thought of at this place. Per Contra, We saw this Evening the Commanding Officer of the Naval Force, sent to protect & to be Vigilant on this Service, incapable of Duty from intoxication. In the Evening their M: & the R.F. walked on the Esplanade & went thro' the same ceremonies as on the Terrace at Windsor; In the Evening cards at Gloucester Lodge.

Augst. 17th.

The King walked out at Seven o'Clock this Morning Went to the look out & from thence saw The Prince of Bouillon (Captn. D'auvergne's) Black Squadron in Portland Road. The heaviness of the morning & the mist which was flying around & had cover'd the top of Portland Island, deprived Us of the prospects, which might have been seen & admired from here. Return'd to Breakfast, not however before unluckily We met The Marquis of Buckingham, with whom the K. stood talking on the Esplanade abt. 39 m. of an hour in a misling rain without stirring a step— A Q: before eleven, the day getting worse, all the R.F. except the Q. went to Church, where We heard a service but indifferently perform'd. I was not pleased with the addition the singers had to assist their Voices. They were accompanied by some indifferent instruments, among which were Fiddles & a Bass. After

the Sermon & the concluding Prayer I was quite surprised & displeased with the Music & Voices striking up God Save The King.

After Church the weather improved which tempted the King to a Walk or rather to a stand still on the Esplanade of near Two Hours. Return'd to Gloucester Lodge at a Q^r before four, to be dress'd by Four for dinner & at which Time the K. is set.

In the Evening, I avoided the Walk on the Esplanade having had a full dose of it in the Morning, & with the addition of a beginning of a severe Cold as the reward of my attendances. Abt. eight o'Clock— All the R.F: Went to the Ball room, which was filled with some acquaintances, but with more strangers. At first a little drawing Room took place, This did not last long. The R.F. retired into the card Room where they drank Tea & received their particular Friends. Abt. Ten this ceremony concluded. The Tea drinkings were general through^t the Ball room. My Friend Price & Myself adjourned to our own Room & drank Tea quietly by ourselves at Home & return'd afterwards to the Commons.

Augst. 18th.

With the assistance of a paper of directions & a small dose of James's Powder I gave a good check to the beginning of a cold which threaten'd to be troublesome. The King bathed for the first time this morning between 7 & 8 o'Clock— After Breakfast The Horses were got ready & the K. attended by P. S & Pss. Sophia & their suite rode out & gained the Downs from the Lullworth Side.

Rode thro' the snug & shelter'd Hamlet of Binkham [Bincombe] & afterward came to Mr. Williams's late the residence of the famous Physician Sir Ed: Wilmot. The Farm is now occupied by a young intelligent Somersetshire Farmer (Ham) who we found looking over one of His Flock of 400 Ewes. The King spoke much to Him & rode over His Farm. He crosses His breed of Dorsetshires with Somersetshire Rams— He expects by this cross to

improve the size & wool of the Dorsets. His Farm is abt. 600 Acres. They thatch well in this country, tho' not so well I think as in Somersetshire. What makes their thatch look so well is that they draw out from the Wheat Sheaf the longest straw & then putting them together cutt off the Ear & afterwards thresh out the Corn; by this method all the pipes of the straw are unbruised & unbroken. The thatch made of this straw looks very much like Reed thatch, only of a slighter quality, & the Straw so selected & cut they call "Reeds"—

These down rides I like much. The air is cool & pure on them, when below it is close & sultry. The green slopes of the Downs cover'd with Sheep are my delight & I am amused with sauntering rides over them. I already feel that they are excellent remedies agst. colds. From the downs We return'd by Upway Hill & the turnpike Road to Weymouth. Near Weymouth met Lord Rivers* on His return after having been Here to pay His respects to Their Majesties. At Weymouth, Lord Dorchester † (Milton) paid His respects to His Majesty as He dismounted—Yesterday His Son Lord Milton came on the same business—He commands a very respectable Corps of Yeomanry of this county—who voluntarily came forward at this time & enrolled themselves without putting the County to any expence.

This morning a Lugger came in & anchored a head of our little Fleet. She belong'd to Captn. D'Auvergne's Black Squadron & was called *The Scout*.

In the Evening the Q. & Psss. sat on a cover'd Temporary Seat on the Esplanade & worked, His M. walked a little, & the Evening as usual concluded with Cards.

* George Pitt, first Baron Rivers of Strathfieldsaye, Hampshire, one of the Lords of the Bedchamber.

† Joseph Damer, first Earl of Dorchester and formerly Member of Parliament for Weymouth.

Augst. 19th.

This Morning the K: walked before Breakfast after Breakfast the Horses came as usual & The King attended by P. Ernest Pss Sophia & the usual suite rode to Upway drank at the Spring & continued the ride over the Downs towards Maiden Castle. Pss S: here left us & return'd to Weymouth. We continued our ride over the Downs bearing first towards Abbotsbury then turning towards Weymouth descended the Ridge near Mr. Thresher's Farm at Chorton (*sic*) & proceeding afterwards across the Commons came to the Camp on Wick Heath. The Line were alert & turned out in front of their Camp without Arms, with their music playing God Save The King, Their Picquet under arms. His M. dismounted & walked along their Line. The Men are on the whole a fine Body. Their Camp is upon a very dry spot, open to the Breeze of the two Bays & commands views over each.

I perceive that soon an alert will be tried. From the Camp The *Southampton* Frigate is anchor'd in sight. A Gun fired, & four Lanthorns in a square in the Shrouds at night will put the whole Camp in motion, as also the Dragoons their Picquets & Patroles. But more than the rest this signal will probably alarm the Town, & try their alertness. Certainly something of this kind will not be amiss, for in case of need, it will shew & explain to the men, where & how they can act together. From the Camp We return'd thro' Melcomb Regis & I there recollected the short turn which has often led Me & My Friend towards Portland. On coming home to My Little Cabin I reconnoitred with My Spying Glass the Ships in front of My Window, & found that a light Brig & two Cutters had arrived during our absence. One of the Cutters, in size, with Her white Botton, & Her Little Square Flag at Her maintop Mast Head brought The *Dart* of Portsmouth strongly to my recollection, but my good Glass checked my fancies, & instead of a quiet happy Party on board, discover'd to Me a swarm of Soldiers in Red Jackets.

Lord Walsingham * join'd our Party today—& the jokes have already begun! In my ride I saw nothing new except on a summer House a new kind of covering which I think may be made something of— Instead of slates its roof was cover'd with large Scollop Shells which really seem'd to lay close & to answer very well— This is Captn. Smiths Summer House at Upway.

This Evening the Queen's seat was placed in front of the Sea just before our House. Here the Pss's work with Her & received Company as they pass'd. The Marchioness of Buckingham & Her Emigrant Party engross'd most of the Evenings conversation. Their number was increased, & an Abbé who teaches the Deaf & dumb to converse by writing & signs, was presented. He had with Him an interesting young Boy of abt. nine yrs. old who understood all He said by signs & wrote either in French or English every thing He was desired. His Father was a Portuguese His Mother a French woman. Their Majesties were much pleased with this Boy.

During our ride this Morning Her M: & the Pss's, went to Delamottes & bought many things from His shop which they made presents of. Her Majesty was so good as to give Me a silver stand with a set of little Glass Bottles for vinegars &c. Pss Elizabeth gave Me a Silver Wine Guglet & Pss. Elizabeth & Pss. Mary made Me a joint present of 12 large Silver Table Spoons. I have since received another present from the purchases of this Morning & have added to this list a silver mustard Pot the gift of Pss. Augusta.

This day my receipts have been valueable & tho' last, not least acceptable was a Packet from a neighbouring Island, & this I gladly added to my Treasures. It is to be recollected that My fancies abt. *the Dart* were floating, & recorded before the Packet arrived. This night a very handsome & very Comfortable Boat Cloak arrived for Me

* Thomas de Grey, 2nd Baron Walsingham, Chairman of the House of Lords. Married the sister of 2nd Lord Boston, *q.v.*

from Portsmouth; the kind remembrance of an absent Friend.

Augst. 20th.

The K: bathed this Morning between Six & Seven. The weather proving favorable He order'd the *Southampton's* signal to be made for preparations for sailing. The signal was directly answer'd from the *Southampton*. After Breakfast Their Majesties & all the Pss's except the Pss. Royal & also P. Ernest took boat at the Pier— Capt'n. Forbes steer'd & the Royal Standard was hoisted on the bow of the Boat. On approaching The *Southampton*, She fired a Royal Salute, as did The *Sea Flower* & *Ferret* sloops, & Custom House Cutter. Directly after Their Majesties got on board, this Little Fleet got under Weigh & with a moderate Breeze stood out of the Bay. Capt'n. D'Auvergne's Black Squadron as He calls it, had left Portland Road last night abt. ten o'Clock with several Transports & Merchantmen under Convoy for Guernsey; This departure deprived Their Majesties of an opportunity of seeing this little Squadron & indeed has deprived them of Their principal Protection which it really was, tho' their being Here was accidental as We found them in Portland Road waiting for a Wind. The *Albion*, another line of Battle Ship cutt down & fitted as a floating Battery as powerful as The *Nonsuch*, was here, but was order'd to Spithead a day or two before their Majesty's arrival at Weymouth. The very slight force We now have is certainly matter of censure agst. our First Lord of the Admiralty.*

Their Majesties sailed abt. two Leagues towards the East End of Portland Island then tacked & return'd into Weymouth Bay. On leaving the *Southampton* She fired a Royal Salute which was answer'd by the sloops & Custom House Cutter. In their trip two large vessels in the Channel were seen from the Mast Head. My cold, tho' better, inclined Me to decline going on board. I rode however by Myself & went on the Portland Sands. Leaving My Horses at the Ferry I crossed & visited the Pebbly

* John Pitt, 2nd Earl of Chatham.

Beach my favorite Course of former times— Here I watched the deep waves with all the pleasure I had so often formerly been accustom'd to do, nor did I forget how Much My Friend had also been interested by them, nor how She had walked among the Pebbles on the Bank. I did not omit my Enquiry after Her Protégé, at the Ferry House. Bezant the former Ferryman has had two successors at the Ferry. He is turn'd Farmer Himself & I hear His family have already in part dispersed— I shall enquire more of those who I know have formerly so interested a kind enquirer.

When Their Majesties landed from Their Boat, a Caravan near Gloucester House attracted their attention. It was the conveyance of the two Brothers called the Albinos from the Mountain of Chamouni. Their M: & the Royal Family honor'd them with a visit in their Caravan, & were made surprised at these extraordinary looking People— They have strong milk white long Hair, Their eyebrows & eyelashes & beards White. The skin of their heads was of a pinkish colour, Their Eyes also inclined to Pink. The light dazzled them a good deal tho' We saw them under an Awning which produced a very mellow light. They spoke very tolerable French & were affable in their manner & well bred in their behaviour— The one was twenty six yrs. of age the other twenty four—

In the Evening Their Majesties & all the R.F. went to the Little Theatre Royal where they saw Inkle & Yarico, & Ways & Means, very tolerably acted.

I received today a Present from Pss. Royal of a Silver Cream Jug bought at Delamottes so that by this time My collection of Plate from thence has become considerable. Goldsw^{thy} & My F. Price have also received their ample share from thence—

Augst. 21st.

After a walk before Breakfast The K. return'd to Gloucester Lodge & afterwards rode. Our ride this morning was on the Turnpike Road to the Hill beyond Upway where We left it & got upon the Downs. Descending afterwards to

Monkton at the corner of the Village His M. saw a Poor Woman returning over the Downs from the Fields with a Barrow on which was a Cradle curiously filled with three Little Children. One sat at the Head of the Cradle, the other two fronted it at the foot. The King stopped & asked Her whence She was come; She answer'd from gleaning in the Feilds, & that She carried the little Babies with Her having nobody to take care of them at home in Her absence. Two of them were Her Children the Third belonged to a First Cousin of Hers. At this time the group was improved by the arrival of the Cousin, with a large Bundle of Wheat on Her head. The King was pleased with the whole arrangement & taking out a Guinea from His purse gave it the Women for the Children on which they resumed their journey with the greatest cheerfulness. From Monkton, skirting the down, We came near Maiden Castle. His Majesty however, did not go to it, I took however an opportunity of quitting Him for a short time & hastened into this most curious & very stupendous entrenchment.

I took a short inspection of it & overtook the K. before He reached the back of Upway Village. We return'd home thro' Upway—

In the Evening Lord Chesterfeild * came from the camp & an intended Visit to it was settled to take place immediately. The two sociables for their Majesties & Pss' were order'd for them, & the Equerry Post Coach for us & e'er long We reached the Camp on Wick Heath. The Line turned out & received their Majesties with a general Salute. They walked along the Line & afterwards the Bucks Regt. marched by, first in slow & then in quick time. Then having gone thro' their firings with Powder gave a general salute, & were marched into the streets of their Encampment. The even'g. gun then fired & the Night Picquets were form'd.

Just as His M. was going with The Marquis of Bucking-

* Philip Stanhope, 5th Earl of Chesterfield, K.G. Son of the writer of the famous letters, and chiefly remarkable for his lack of manners and ill breeding.

ham to His Tent, He saw a very young officer & asked who He was. L^d B. told Him that His name was Harris, that He was Son of Mrs. Harris who had been nurse to P. Octavias & that this young Lad was The Pss. Foster Br. The K. was much struck with this information & became much interested to know more of the young lad's History. He found that He had lately lost some near relations & that Ld. B. had kindly become His friend. The K. told young Harris that He had an undoubted claim on His protection & that He might be assured that He should receive it. Lord B. on this told the King that any mark of favor that His Majesty might be pleased to shew this young Boy would be felt by every Officer & every Private Soldier as an obligation conferr'd upon themselves. The King replied in the most gracious manner that He had now a double claim upon His protection & that He might depend upon it that He should have it. The young Boy received this Kindness with all that natural modesty & propriety which made Him very interesting to the King & the many officers & soldiers who stood round Him. On His M. return to Weymouth He sent for Genl. Goldsworthy & told Him that He desired young Harris might be immediately appointed a Cadet in His regt. & that He would give Him Cornet's Pay till He was old enough to be a Cornet in His Regt. & that then He would give Him a Cornetry. At the same time He told Goldsworthy that He put Him under His immediate care.

On leaving the Camp after Their Majesties had drank Tea with Ld. B. in His Tent, The Marquis desired permission to fire a Royal Salute from His Feild Peices as soon as the Carriages were at a proper distance from Them. Instead of which precaution, the carriages had scarce been put in motion, & our Equerry coach at not above 12 paces from the Feild Peices & immediately following the Sociables, when I saw the match blaze & instantly put to the fuse. The report alarm'd the Horses exceedingly & the repetition of the crash made some of them extremely riotous & very difficult to keep in. However by the greatest good luck &

chance none broke away nor was there any overturn in consequence of this very ill timed & dangerous Salute. It was really astonishing that no accident happen'd so near were we when the firing begun.

Augst. 22nd

This Morning The King Bathed before Breakfast, at His return order'd signals to be made to the *Southampton* that He should sail this Morning. Breakfasted & abt. ten o'Clock Their Majesties & all the Pss's. except the Pss. R. embarked on board the *Southampton's* Barge from the Peir. I volunteer'd this cruise the morning being clear & warm & a calm Sea with a moderate Breeze. On going on Board the *Southampton's* yards were manned as was also those of the *Sea Flower* & *Ferret* Brigs which accompanied us— The *Nimble* Cutter which arrived this Morning from Guernsey joined us in the course of the day & after sailing with us for some little time went out to Sea again— We sailed out on the back of Portland Island abt. three leagues from Weymouth Road— We saw a few small Ships only, coming from the Westward off the Point of Portland Island— The two large ships seen from the mast head, as their Majesties were sailing two days ago, are reported to have been the *Belton* & *Alfred* of 74. Tacked & came in to Weymouth Road again, where the *Southampton* the *Sea Flower* & *Ferret* cast anchor & their Majesties left the Ship & returned in the Barge to the Peir.

This Morning Captn. Forbes of the *Southampton* received a letter from Sir Roger Curtis * informing Him that Part of Ld. Howe's fleet were already at St. Helens & that Lord Howe with the rest would join without delay. We expect the Fleet therefore the first favorable Wind, & a Frigate will probably be detached a head from it to give us Notice.

This Evening near Sunset the *Active* Cutter came from Admiral Macbrides Squadron, who informs us that He is

* Rear-Admiral Sir Roger Curtis, captain of the fleet, was knighted for his prominent services in the relief and defence of Gibraltar.

out with the *Minataur* of 74 & some Frigates & that his arrival here may be daily expected.

At Ten o'Clock this Night the *Southampton* fired a gun & instantly four Lanthorns in a square appear'd in the shrouds. The *Ferret* & *Sea Flower* Brigs immediately answer'd with one gun each, & with corresponding Lights. On the Flag Staff at the Battery on Shore instantly two lights one above the other were run up, & the Battery at the look out answer'd by two guns fired quick one after the other. Immediately upon these signals the Camp Picket of the Bucks Militia marched out of Camp & took post at the Battery on the look out & the Regt. got under Arms.

The Town guard of the Bucks Militia stood to their arms & mounted out on the Beach of the Esplanade near the Peir, & the Dragoons got ready & assembled at their Alarm Post & were soon joined by the Patroles who were brought in. The Volunteer Artillery company who knew nothing of this alert turned out with great readiness & form'd at their Batteries. The Troops all turned out with the greatest alertness & were soon ready. They were not long detained & sent back to their Camp & Quarters with much commendation for their good countenance & Alacrity—

The good people of Weymoth were many of them much surprised. They assembled in numbers in the Streets & on the Beach wondering at the stirr which appear'd so suddenly every where, & the report of the Guns & the clattering of the Horses shoes on the pavement, brought many a sober inhabitant from His bed to his Chamber Window.

This Alert has done no harm. On the contrary it has shewn that the report of the one gun from the *Southampton* & others was not so distinctly heard as they should have been & that the lights were signals too feeble for the distance. This will be rectified on another occasion when perhaps the Alarm may be given from the Eastward.

This day a Packet from Guernsey arrived in Weymouth Bay.

Augst. 23d.

A little after seven o'Clock His M: Walked out. The morning overcast & misling rain. A signal was made from the *Southampton* Frigate that the day was unfavorable. The Wind at this time much to the South.

On the Esplanade the King met Mr. Bridge an Eminent Farmer & breeder of Wenford Eagle in this county. Talked much with Him on the management of His Farm & Sheep & promised to come & look at them. At Breakfast Capt. Forbes of the *Southampton* brought the intelligence that Admiral McBride & His Squadron was in the Offing. His Majesty therefore determined to go on board *The Southampton* to meet them & the Signal for *The Southampton's* Boats was made. By the time they reached the Peir, the day became a little more clear, & the wind changed to N.W. On His Majesties & Pss's coming on board *The Southampton*, the Royal Standard was hoisted at the Main top Mast head, & instantly She gave A Royal Salute which was answer'd by *The Sea Flower* & *Ferret* Sloops. Weighed Anchor & got under weigh immediately & stood towards Admiral McBride's Squadron with a steady Breeze from the N.West. This Squadron with some merchantmen & Transports with Them made 21 sail. Of these one was a line of Battle Ship, Six Frigates 2 Cutters & the rest merchantmen & Transports—

Admiral McBrides Squadron consisted of

The <i>Minotaur</i>	74	Vice-Adl. McBride (Capt. Louis)
The <i>Nymphe</i>	36	Capt. Murray
The <i>Thalia</i>	36	Capt. Grindall
The <i>Crescent</i>	36	Sir John Saumarez
The <i>Hebe</i>	38	Capt. Minchin
The <i>Druid</i>	32	Capt. Ellison

Cutters—

Active
Alligator
Nancy
Prestwood
Charlotte
Lion

Luggers—

Valiant
Cockchafer
Dolphin

The *Hind*, 28 guns Captn. Durham on Her Passage from Cowes to Guernsey with several Transports full of Men & Victuallers fell in with the Squadron off Portland Island & was brought in by Signal from Admiral McBride & who made part of His Squadron when we first saw it.

The Merchantmen under Her convoy were order'd into Portland Bay. As Captn. McBride's squadron approached, the *Southampton*, the *Minotaur* & Six Frigates form'd line & saluted the Royal Standard. The salute was very beautiful.* After this the *Minotaur* tacked, & stood towards the *Southampton* with the Frigates. As She approached She manned the Rattlings of the Shrouds diminishing from the bottom to the Top the men leaning back agst. the Masts of the Ships. In my life I never saw any thing so very beautiful & so magnificent as the *Minotaur* appeared as She pass'd by us with Her Shrouds so manned, the side on which She pass'd crouded with Men & a full Band playing God Save The King on the Poop. She came very close to us, & pass'd on an opposite Tack Her men Cheering as they came alongside of Us— Nothing could be better brought up to Us than the *Minotaur* was, and a finer 74 has never been built in our Navy.

She sails remarkably well & the Frigates in the Squadron are overmatched by Her Sailing. After The Squadron had pass'd us they edged away to the eastward after which they tacked & stood after the *Southampton*, who had stretch'd out to the West^d. The whole Squadron sailed together on the Back of Portland Island & very near to the Race which We saw running a strong & boisterous Current before Us. The *Hind* abt. this time fired a gun & hoisted a yellow Flag at Her Main Top Masthead for Her Convoy to reassemble out of Portland Bay & soon after another signal, by a flag half red & half white, for them to quicken sail. We now saw the *Hind* quitting our little Fleet, & the transports & Victuallers making a circle round us in coming out of Portland Road, join'd their Convoy, & we

* A shot from the *Minotaur*, mixed with our Salute accidentally without accident.—RFG

saw them continuing their voyage with every prospect of good weather & a speedy passage to Guernsey. Several of the Transports crouded with Soldiers pass'd close to us on either side, cheering the *Southampton* as they pass'd—

On board some of them the 102 Regt. was embarked & I forget what others belong'd to this Convoy— The arrival of it would be very acceptable as Men are wanted at Guernsey to replace those which from thence are order'd on another destination & as flour in these Islands begun to run short. On board one of the Transports they had a band of Music.

Having with a very favorable breeze stretch'd out this Morning abt. Six Leagues, We tacked after the *Minotaur*, who had tacked some little time with the Frigates before We did. We required again our Station a head & led into Weymouth Road where in Her usual Birth She let go Her Anchor, As did the *Minotaur* & Frigates a little without us.

On their Majesties leaving the *Southampton* the Royal Standard was hoisted on the Bow of the Barge, & the Frigate & Her Two Cutters, with Adl. McBrides squadron gave a Royal Salute.

I never saw a better sailing day than this has proved, tho' the Morning appeared so unfavorable & our little Fleet has been shewn to the greatest possible advantage throughout our cruise. On our return to Weymouth Road We near'd the *Minotaur*, on which V. A. McBride took that Opportunity of hoisting out His barge & sending His Captain on Board the *Southampton* to receive His Majesty's commands & to know if He would give permission for the Officers of His Squadron to be presented to Him. The late Accident which Adl. McBride had, by fracturing His Thigh by an unruly horse, made it still inconvenient for Him to exert himself much, & He therefore now staid on Board.

After His Majesty had dined He walked on the Esplanade, & there He met Vice Adl. McBride & the Captns. of His Squadron, with Whom He conversed a considerable time; on taking leave of them Their Majesties

& the R. Family went to the Theatre Royal, where the Battle of Hexham & the Spoilt Child, concluded the amusements of this day.

Just at dinner time The P. of Wales accompanied by Lord Clermont* arrived, dined at Gloucester Lodge, & afterwards went to the Play.

Augst. 24th.

Our life here is so unconnected with the rest of the Society of the Place that I fear it will occasion much sameness in the early part of the day at least, in the journal. His M: Bathed this Morning abt half past seven o'Clock & He walked afterwards on the Esplanade with The Prince of Wales for some time, who were joined by Captn. Grindal of the *Thalia* Frigate with whom they conversed some time. Admiral MacBride with the Captns of His Squadron came also on the Parade & paid their respects. At a quarter before eleven Their Majesties with the Prince of Wales Prince Ernest & the Princesses went to Church. The Sermon was a very good one on Fashion, but unfortunately the Clergyman was detected instantly in having preached a Sermon of Dr. Blair's, for Her Majesty had the same morning by chance been reading that very sermon to the Princesses. After Church His M: The P. of W. & P. E. walked on the Esplanade & afterwards went to see a Horse Barrack filling up on the other side of the Water, attended by Majr. Spencer of the Royals. On our return from looking at the Barrack saw the *Resolution* of Weymouth, Privateer, that had come in this Morning with seven Frenchmen on board She had taken out of a Prize off Ushant. The Prize is not yet come in.

After dinner the K: walked on the Esplanade & at eight went with the Q: the Pss's & the two Princes to the Rooms at the Hotel, where was a great *Té* & a great croud.

* William Henry Fortescue was Member of Parliament for County Louth, and created Earl Clermont in 1776. On his death his estates passed to his nephew Sir Harry Goodriche the well-known sporting baronet.

The wind is unfavorable for Lord Howe's fleet; The hopes of seeing Them makes us anxious for a change. Our Squadron continues in Weymouth road & ornaments it very much. This Morning the *Thalia* moved Her situation to give us a more advantageous view of the *Minotaur*. This Squadron I believe is to be much with us, Subject however to a move, on any sudden intelligence. To it are attached four Cutters & two Luggers, which are some of them always on the look out in the Channel. I hear it is to be further strengthen'd by the *Marlborough* & the *Alfred* of 74 each.

Admiral McBride's Squadron scours the Channel from the Lizard & Lands End to Portland— Their circle on the French Coast is Cherbourg, Cape La Hogue, Guernsey & Jersey, St. Malo, Morlaix & Ushant.

The French have cut down some of their old 74's & depriving them of their upper deck have converted them into very stout Frigates with most formidable & powerful Batteries. We shall be obliged to follow their example. We have already cutt down the *Nonsuch* & the *Albion* & orders are given for more to be so adapted & which are to be ready in two or three months.

The French now build so much stronger than We do, that from prudence & necessity We must imitate them.

Augst. 25th.

This Morning at half past seven His M. took His walk on the Esplanade & return'd a little before nine to look at His dispatches just arrived by the messenger, & to Breakfast. After Breakfast their Majesties The P. of W. P. E. & all the Pss. set out in the Sociables & on Horseback for Portland Islands. At the Ferry Their Majestys & R. Family crossed in the Boat, The Horses forded a little below the Ferry it being low water. This Ford at low water is very good for those who know it, but must not be hazarded by strangers. It is abt. a hundred yards broad. After that on each side it becomes deep water. It is passable for Carts & Waggon's when some posts near the

Ferry House appear above Water. You pass in the proper line when the high part of Weymouth Castle is exactly in a direction with the Weymouth road, at the highest point of it where it turns towards the Town. I asked what was my point of direction if going to Portland & declared myself perfectly satisfied that I conceived that the Old Castle & road was a very sure direction coming from the Island. I was answer'd with a smile that it was agst. the interest of the Ferry Man to make the mark as plain on both sides. Having cross'd the Ferry & our Horses reached the opposite side, We proceeded under the Chissel Bank towards Portland Island. This Chissel Bank is a very singular one, a great natural dike of Pebbles keeping out the ocean for several miles & forming the Barrier between two Bays. On the Western side the Bank is most curious, & is very steep too. The Surge, & Waves constantly dashing against it is wonderfully fine. In calmer weather the deep Green Waves are beautiful, in Storms they are awful. One peculiarity of this Bank is that towards Portland Isle the Pebbles are large, thence gradually diminishing about Abbotsbury it finishes in a fine sand. The Smugglers in this find their sure mark & in a dark night they know by the feel of the Pebbles on what part of the Bank they have touched.

On their Majesty's arrival near the entrance of Chissel Town the Loyal inhabitants met Them drawn up in a double Rank with Colours flying, music playing, & Ribbons in their hats. Without stopping His M. rode up the Steep Hill above Fortune's Well & the Sociables with the Queen & Pss.'s follow'd. From the Ascent of this Hill the Prospect below is very fine & by no means a common one. Went thro' Easton & came to the Church which Their Majesties went in to & examined. Afterwards proceeded along the High ridge to the H^d of the Island & from it enjoy'd a very extensive Sea prospect bounded by the Dorsetshire & Devonshire Coast. In fine clear weather a good glass discovers from hence Bury Head. Along this high terrace we continued till We came to the

Light House above the Bill of Portland. Till of late years two Light houses stood here, but these by being so close to each other on the same level nearly, were often mistaken for those on Alderney, a mistake frequently fatal to the unfortunate vessels who navigated these Parts. At present there is only one Light house here, lighted up by strong reflectors in a large Lanthorn.

Not far from this light House is a Flag Staff for signals. At some distance below this Light House & to the Eastward of it is the New Light House lately erected in lieu of the Old one which stood above. This light House is handsomely built of Portland Stone, a single round Shaft of abt. 70 feet high. This is lighted up with reflectors & six Lens's of very large dimensions— Each of these lens's cost £50, & the whole building £1000— From hence you see to great advantage the Rapid & boisterous Race of Portland. From hence continuing along the Coast & passing Wakeham We completed our Circle of the Island & came to the Summit of the Steep Hill above Fortunes Well. At Wakeham the Old Castle looked to great advantage tho' now reduced to very small remains. However from hence its situation & appearance is imposing. Herabouts & round the eastern part of the Island the Views are certainly more Romantic & More picturesque than any other part I have seen. The little Church & Church yard were not forgot, but it was not my good fortune to contrive to see it. Descending the steep Hill We arrived at The Portland Arms, where in the great Bow Window Room some excellent dishes of Fresh Fish, an elegant cold collation & a profusion of good Fruit, made a feast not unworthy of all the distinguished Royalty who partook of it. As the dinner was abundant, The wine was not deliver'd out with a sparing Hand. The Prince of Wales after the King left the Table, resolved to be merry for half an hour. Luckily for the rest, His cheif attention was to Lord Walsingham & Ld. Clermont, & they e're He parted with Them, begun to feel the powerful effects of Conviviality. However the Party broke up in tolerable

good time, & Their Majesties & all the Royal Family walked from the Hotel at the Portland Arms to Portland Castle where close under it on the Beach The Boats from the *Minotaur*, the *Southampton*, the *Thalia* & the *Druid* were ranged— Their Majesty's went a board the *Southampton's* Barge. The Prince of Wales & Prince E. attended by Lord Walsingham & Ld. Clermont, went on board the *Minotaur's* Barge, & hoisting a sail steer'd for the *Minotaur* (Adl. MacBride), who expected the honor of this Visit by appointment. On the Princes' approach, We saw all the Ships of the Squadron man their yards. Our Barges rowed across the Bay to Weymouth Peir. On leaving Portland Island the Castle fired a Royal Salute, as they had done on their Majesty's arrival at Portland.

In the Evening We had our usual summons to Cards in the King's apartment & just before We begun the P. of W. P. E. & Lord Clermont arrived at Glocester Lodge from the *Minotaur* Where they had made a second dinner & taken so liberal a potation, that they were much animated, & Poor Lord Walsingham totally overcome by it— They left Him, stripped & laid out on a Couch on board the *Minotaur*, under the care & protection of Adm! McBride, who promises to return Him safe to His Friends on Shore tomorrow. Thus had ended this days expedition. To us, on whom so violent an attack has not been made, The Expedition has been altogether pleasant. The Island however furnishes but few interesting scenes in the interior part of it. Entirely intersected by stone Walls the face of the country is extremely uncheery— The inhabitants however whose number amounts to abt. 2000 Souls, are wonderfully attached to their Island, & by no means relish Strangers settling amongst them. If one of them marry's out of the Islands, if in conversation it is asked among them who He has married, the answer will be, a *Cumberlin* a name given to all intruding Strangers who come here. The young girls are here immoderately fond of dancing, & will dance all day, & sometimes for three days together with very little intermission. As the dance gets warm they

strip to their Stays, next these become incumbrances, & at last they dance *light*, & lightly enough!

The King is Lord of the Manor of Portland, on His entering Portland Island He was some little distance before the Queens Carriage. He turn'd back & coming up to the Carriage He made Her a low bow, & told Her, as Lord of the Manor of Portland He came to meet Her, & give Her Welcome. Just as We left Portland Island this evening, We saw far in the offing a large Fleet of Ships steering up Channel. They proved to be the East India Convoy coming from Ireland. This very valueable convoy consisting of 16 East India Ships, a Charter Ship, & a South Whaler valued at above three millions, & the *Nation*, left Ireland under convoy of five Sail of the Line, one Fifty, & a Frigate. These escorted them to the Lands End when all but the *Alexander* 74 & the *Raisable* 64 left them & these two line of Battle Ships escorted 9 hours up Channel—

The Round We took in Portland Island this day was first thro' Chissel or Chesill, Fortunes Well, & Easton, Reforn, Southevill or South Ville, Wakeham & Weston—Seven villages in one Parish—

Augst. 26th.

Before 7 o'Clock this Morning His M. bathed and went afterwards to see the new Horse Barrack on the other side of the River. On His return enquired on passing the Signal Flag if the wind was favorable for sailing & was answer'd that the *Southampton* had already made the signal that it was, on which His M: order'd the Signal for the Boat to get ready which was answer'd by the *Southampton*.

As soon as Breakfast was over Their Majesties & Pss's prepared for sailing & the Prince of Wales took leave & with Ld. Clermont return'd to Kempshot— What came within the fair acct. of His yesterdays visit to the *Minotaur* included only a narrative of excess of conviviality. I learnt this Morning an anecdote respecting that Visit which ought not to be omitted. The *Minotaur's* yards were manned as were those of the rest of the Squadron. On the

Prince of Wales's coming on board The Band struck up God save the King, on which The Prince of Wales sung God Save The King accompanied by the Band. On Hearing the Prince's Voice the Seamen from the Deck to the Mast Head immediately caught the spirit of the Song & made the Ship ring in one loud Chorus of God Save the King. After it was finished they gave three hearty Cheers which was answered from every Ship of the Squadron.

The Boats being ready this Mornng. at the Pier, Their Majesties & Princesses embarked on board the *Southampton* Barge & We took our places on board that of the *Minotaur*. The tide set very strong round the Pier head & before the Larboard oars could be run out the King's Barge was swept round the Peir Head & grounded— The Sailors leaped over & by their immediate exertion She was got off. The *Minotaur's* Boat had better luck. On coming on board the *Southampton* Her yards & those of McBrides Squadron were manned & they cheer'd from the several Ships. There was so little wind on coming on board that preparations only for sailing could be made. At last the sails began to fill & We weighed anchor. The Wind for some time shifted constantly & seem'd uncertain where it intended to blow from. At last it fixed at S.S.W. & with a good Breeze from that Quarter We sailed.

Soon after we had sailed the *Minotaur* made a signal for the Squadron to get under Weigh, & afterwards hoisted a Blue Flag with a yellow cross at the Maintop Mast head as the signal for the Squadron to form the order of sailing.

The weather was cloudy & accompanied by frequent showers & seem'd likely to blow fresh soon. We sailed out abt. seven Leagues tacked & return'd with a fine Breeze. This day the *Southampton* certainly was the best Sailor of the Fleet. The *Minotaur* was throughout the day the nearest to us, & the *Crescent* the heaviest sailer. The famed *Hebe* does not preserve Her credit in sailing. It is owing to having taken out Her very lofty masts & putting in Her masts only of a 32 gn. Frigate.

This day we return'd to the Peir with two female Invalids.

The Cutters attached to Adl. Macbride are The *Active*, The *Alligator*, The *Nancy*, The *Prestwood*, The *Charlotte*, The *Lion* & the *Dolphin*, with the *Valiant* & *Cock Chaffer* Luggers. These are not now all with Admiral McBride several of them are at Sea on the Look out. The *Valiant* is a beautiful Lugger & outsails every thing in this Fleet.

This Evening The *Trenton* of Boston, Prize to the *Resolution* Cutter, Privateer of Weymouth, came into Harbour. She is a Brig, & was laden with Pitch & Tar for Brest. Cards as usual in the King's Apartment.

Augst 27th.

This morning the Wind was so high that His Majesty did not stir out before Breakfast. A signal was made from the *Southampton* Frigate that the day was unfavorable for sailing, which was answer'd at the Battery Flag Staff. After Breakfast the day still continuing blustering & the showers frequent, His M: declined Riding & walked for a short time thro' the Town.

The Ships in the road tho' they seem to roll a good deal, ride easy enough at their Anchors. This gale from the Westd, appears to be very much equinoctial, tho' much before its time. Our little Cutters will not have the pleasantest cruise between the Bay & the Bill of Portland in such gales when on the Look out. I watched much for an opportunity this morning of paying a visit to the Chissel Bank which in such Weather is always in great Beauty, but being disappointed I was obliged to content Myself with a Walk on the Sands.

In the Evening went to the Play & saw the Chapter of Accidents & the Romp.

Augst 28th.

His M. bathed this Morning, & afterwards walked on the Esplanade. A signal was made from the *Southampton* Frigate that it was a good day for sailing but His M. intent on a Ride order'd it to be answer'd with a signal that no Boats

should be wanted. We rode after Breakfast & at setting out our Party is commonly numerous, including the K. P.E (Prince Ernest): Pss Sophia & their different suits we form a cavalcade of 16. Our ride this day was directed along the Lullworth Beach, by no means a pleasant ride as it is so stoney. From the Beach We came to Preston afterwards rode thro' Sutton & then got upon the downs & open country to Broadmire, rode thro that village & continued on the Turnpike road till we came to Mr. L.(ionel) Damer's at Came— Rode thro' these grounds & thence over the high Downs & descended them near Upway— From these Downs in a clear bright, & pleasant feeling day I reconnoitred around Me— To the Westd. over a great expanse of Sea I saw the Somersetshire & Devonshire far extending Coasts. I guess I must have seen near to Barry Head, the air was so clear— But Eastward the view tho' not so distant in prospect was far more tempting & interesting. The Isle of Wight bounded the View. I could plainly without a glass see the White Cliff above the Needles & the coast as far as St. Catherine on one side, & to that Point beyond Lymington & opposite to it, which prevents a view of Cowes which otherwise might have been commanded from hence.

At Upway His M. order'd Me to call at Farmer Sherring's where I order'd two of those Broad Rakes called Hell Rakes & two Strawpresses to be made for Him. The one intended for Windsor, the other for Richmond Farm.

This Eveng. a long walk with His M. on the Esplanade & the cards as usual concluded the day.

I am anxious that His M. would go on board the *Minotaur* as a proper compliment to the Admiral in the first place, & in the next that from Her we might see the Frigates manoeuvre round Us as we sail.

Augst. 29th.

In walking this morning before Breakfast His Majesty was told that by the favorable change of Wind which had happen'd in the Night & still continued that there was

a probability of seeing Ld. Howe's Fleet this morn'g. On which His M. order'd the signal for the *Southampton* to expect His M. on board & soon after the signal for the Boats was made. Their Ms: Prince E: & Pss's went on board abt. ten o'Clock but by this time the Wind had veer'd to the S.S.Wd. for some time as the Sailors said "Seem'd to be looking for a hole to blow from" The *Southampton* got under Weigh & was soon follow'd by Admiral McBride in the *Minotaur* & the Frigates & Cutters of His Squadron. Having stretched out towards St. Albans Head abt. four miles, We neared the land & tacked. At this tack, I perceived that the *Southampton* "lifted Her Head" somewhat more than She had done, however I got accusom'd to Her Motion—

Admiral McBride's Squadron pass'd on this tack & the *Minotaur*, followed by the *Thalia*, came very close to Us. After this the Admiral's ship tacked & the Frigates as soon as they had come astern of the Admiral tacked also & followed Him— The appearance of the Fleet on this tack was uncommonly interesting & pleasing, & we continued our Tacks throught. this day, till our return towards Weymouth, with a steady wind abaft the Beam. We stretched out abreast of Lullworth Cove when the *Nymphe* fired a gun & made a signal, & our man at the Mast Head gave notice that He saw far in the S.E. Quarter, first a strange Sail, & then Six Sail. We were now in eager expectation of seeing Lord Howe's Fleet very soon but almost as soon as first seen, the strange Sail were known to be Coasters only & not Ships of War.

When We stood back again for Weymouth Road, the Admiral edged from us, luffed up, & kept his Luff towards Portland Road where His Squadron followed Him & anchor'd. The *Southampton* came to Her old station accompanied by the *Ferret* & *Sea Flower* Brigs. By Admiral McBride's anchoring in Portland Bay it seems not unlikely that He may take a cruise with His Squadron tomorrow. Just before He stood in for Portland Road He made the *Valiant* Lugger's signal which the Lugger

answer'd & immediately hauling Her wind, steer'd Her course for Guernsey.

We expect the *Winchelsea* Frigate on duty here with the *Southampton* very soon.

No walking this Eveng, The Evening's Shower prevented it. Cards as usual in the Kings apartments after which some few of our Party adjourned to the Master of the Ceremony's Ball. I sent My Guinea & saved My attendance.

Augst. 30th.

The unfavorable appearance of the Mornng. with misling Rain & cloudy atmosphere determined His M. not to go on board the *Southampton* today, especially as a Wind Nearly South gave very little hopes of seeing Lord Howe's Fleet, but the rain which fell in the night tempted a long ride & this was promised— His M. bathed at half past Seven & after Breakfast the Horses paraded before Gloucester Lodge. His M. P.E. Ld. Walsingham, Genl. Goldsworthy & Myself mounted & His M. signified His intentions of paying a Visit to Mr. Bridge an eminent Farmer at Winford Eagle abt. sixteen Miles from Weymouth. The length of this ride & the pace We sett out at, inclined P. E. to slacken pace & at last to turn back. The rest went on thro' Upway thence by Mr. Browns (Member for the Courts) at Frampton & then thro' Maiden Newton to Winford Eagle—except Genl. Goldsworthy who hauled his Wind at Maiden Newton. In going over one of the Downs between Maiden Newton & Winford Eagle I saw a large flock of Sheep with some polled Sheep & some Dorsetshire Horn Sheep. I stopp'd to look at them. I thought the Polled Sheep handsome looking Sheep in the Flock. On coming to Winford Eagle We had the mortification to find that Mr. Bridge was not at home He had gone but a little before His M. arrived to Dorchester Market. I learnt from His Shepherd that the Flock I had taken notice of belonged to Mr. Bridge & that the polled Ewes I had seen were a cross between a Leicestershire Ram & the Dorset

Ewes— The Ewe Lambs of this Cross He rears, the Poor Lambs He sells off— I enquired for the Spanish Ram which His M: had lately made Him a present of. He was at some distance, & turn'd in with fifty prime Dorsetshire ewes, to make the first experiment of the cross with the Spaniard in this Country. All the ewes on this Farm had their full long Tails.

We return'd from Winford Eagle thro' Winterborne, Steepleton, Martin's town, & Upway to Weymouth—

In the evening went to the Play to see The Highland Reel & the Ghost.

Admiral McBride's Squadron remains today in Portland Road. The *Southampton* the *Ferret* & the *Sea Flower* Brigs in Weymouth Road—

Augst. 31st.

Walked with His M. before Breakfast but drove in by a hard shower of rain. In the night there has been a great deal of rain, which will do very great service to the Country. It will have also this advantage according to my calculation, that it will remind us soon of Hunting. The ride of yesterday is also the prelude to harder & longer rides than We have hitherto had here & this too by the same calculation.

Went to Church at the usual Hour with Their Majestys, The Princesses & Prince E: A very good sermon by a Mr. Williams & well deliver'd. This gentln. is Vicar of Marston in Somersetshire, near Queen Camel.

The rain, or rather the frequent showers of Rain, prevented a long Walk after Church on the Esplanade. The effects of strong lights & shadows on the Coast in these gleams would have pleased some Friend as well as Myself. The rain has not hitherto brought the Wind round to the Northd. Adm! McBride has, I see, dispatched one of His Cutters to the Eastward who probably will soon bring us accts. of Lord Howe's Fleet. By a very interesting dispatch I have learnt that on Friday others were disappointed

in their Cruise as well as ourselves. I hope that bad day did my Friend no mischief at Sea.

This Evening the Rain succeeded & brought the Wind Round to the N.N.E. We are all expectation, & flatter ourselves that tomorrow We shall certainly see Ld. Howe's Fleet if the wind remains in its present Quarter. The *Southampton* Frigate has just made the *Sea Flower's* Signal to get under Weigh. She is to cruise between St. Albans Head & the Bill of Portland all night, & keep a look out for Ld. Howe's Fleet & is to give us the earliest notice She can. The *Southampton's* Signal to Us on Shore, of the approach of the Grand Fleet will be one gun & the Union Flag at Her Main Top Mast Head.

This Evening Admiral McBride made the Signal for His Squadron to get under Weigh. We understand that He means to stand off & on in the Channel & to sail with us tomorrow if the Fleet appears. He leaves the *Thalia* & *Crescent* Frigates in Portland Road.

His Majesty was pleased to give us an acc^t this eveng. of the success of a Squadron of Frigates off Brest. They fell in with a French 40 Gun Frigate which they drove on Shore & lost, & sunk one Sloop.

This was done by the Squadron under Sir Borlase Warren who is in the *Flora*. He had with Him the *Arethusa*, the *Artois*, the *Diamond* & the *Santa Margeritta* & *Diana*. This Evening Their Majesties & the R. Family went to the Assembly Rooms. A dull insipid entertainment in a crouded Room.

Sept. the 1st.

This Morning I was up by times & saw the *Sea Flower* standing into Weymouth Road returning from her night's cruise. She pass'd close under the Stern of the *Southampton* but no gun, no signal from the Main Top Mast head appear'd. Soon after seven o'Clock His M. bathed. On his return He order'd the *Southampton's* Signal to be hoisted to make known His intentions of sailing. Which

signal being answer'd from the *Southampton*, the signal for the Boats was order'd immediately after.

Abt. ten o'Clock Their Majesty's & The Pss's went on board the *Southampton's* Barge. The Wind now seem'd changing & had already got to the S^d & West^d. On getting on board the *Southampton* no time was lost, & we found every thing ready to get under Weigh. The *Sea Flower* & *Ferret* Brigs attended. Far in the offing beyond the Bill of Portland We saw Admiral McBride's Squadron. We sailed between the Shambles & the Bill of Portland & return'd to Weymouth between two & three o'Clock. On coming to an Anchor The Captn of the *Sea Flower* reported to us His last night's cruise. He had been between St. Albans head & Portland— Abt^l one o'clock in the Morn'g. He met Admiral McBride's Squadron off St. Albans Head, & except these Ships He had fallen in with no other except the *Heart of Oak* from Portsmouth to Bridport going for Ship Timber which vessel He boarded— As we were returning Home, we perceived that Adml. McBride's Squadron had tacked & seem'd standing in again for Weymouth.

It had been intended to leave the *Thalia* & the *Crescent* in Portland Road, but after these orders were given, Admiral McBride order'd them to sail with His whole force.

Thus has this day pass'd & no acct^s of Lord Howe. He seems by the Weather of this Evening to have judg'd right & He is better at St. Helens than in the Channel working agst an unfavorable Wind.

He has a glorious fleet under His command which consists of Three 100 G. Ships : Five 90's : Two 80's : Twenty Six 74's : Five frigates, one Sloop, One Hospital Ship & Three Fire Ships. This evening Cards in the King's Apartments as usual.

Sept. 2d.

In His morn^g Walk before Breakfast the King this day gave orders for the signal to be made to the *Southampton*

Frigate that He should not want to sail this day— After Breakfast the usual Party, rode out with His M: who went to Dorchester & looked at the New Barracks building at the end of the Town close to the Old Roman Camp known by the name of Poundbury Camp. These Barracks are for those troops of Dragoons & are to connect with that at Wareham, at Weymouth & at Bridport, at each of which places is a Barrack for a troop so that these four Barracks hold a complete Regt. of Dragoons which are usually quarter'd in this county. In the roof of this Barrack an improvement has been made, by constructing it in such manner that occasionally it may furnish a Barrack in the roof for Infantry that will be commodious & Airy. In the roof over the other apartments for the Dragoons of this Barrack at Dorchester for three troops & 400 Infantry might occasionally be put. These Barracks are part of a general distribution of them throught. the Island. They are so situated that soon from the North of Yorkshire to Plymouth there will be a communication from one Barrack to another at no place above 20 miles from each other making a regular & solid chain of Military Ports.

In my ride to Dorchester I saw a large Flock of Sheep near the Road— From the Shepherd I found He had 1400 Hampshire Sheep under his care, & that these were a part of 4000 of the same country Sheep who were feeding on these Downs. On enquiry I found that They are sent every year from Hampshire to feed on the Downs which are let out to them by the different proprietors at the very low rate of Four Pence a head from Lady Day to near Michaelmas, A Price so moderate that I could scarce credit it, but the Shepherd repeatedly mentioned that that was the Price given. They are folded every night, & the folds are changed regularly on the Lands, up & down, so that all in succession receive the benifit of the Fold. After their run Here the Sheep are drove back to Ringwood & other parts of Hampshire. The Hampshire Sheep are not so good as the Dorset. The Shepherd reckon'd their worth on an average a Pound a peice. On our return to Wey-

mouth saw a little addition to our Fleet. The *Valiant* Cutter return'd early this Morn'g. from Her cruise to Guernsey whither She had been sent on Saturday eveng. She return'd at two o'Clock on the Tuesday morn'g. In the evening two Cutters belonging to Admiral Macbride's Squadron Anchor'd in Weymouth Road The one from Plymouth, The other from Torbay. The Cutters were the *Lion* & the *Charlotte*. Admiral McBride with His whole Squadron of Frigates, which were here with Him, is still out on his Cruise & did not return as We expected yesterday. He is probably prowling abt on the French Coast.

This evening had a long Walk on the Esplanade, & Cards in the Kings Apartment afterwards.

Sept. 3d.

On looking out of my Window early this Morning I perceived that the Wind had got round to the N.E. On H: Majesty's going to Bathe the Wind was reported favorable to Him, & He immediately order'd the *Southampton's* signal to be hoisted for sailing, & afterwards another for the Boats to be got ready.

After Breakfast Their Majs. The Princesses & the usual Party went on board the Man of War's Barges at the Pier. A large Vessel which had hove in sight in the early part of the Morning appear'd now far in, steering towards Weymouth Road. It was supposed to be the *Winchelsea* Frigate Ld. Garlies lately from the West Indies & now order'd to attend His Majesty on this Station. By the time His Majesty's Barge reached the *Southampton*, the *Winchelsea* frigate had neared enough to salute, which She did under sail as She came up. On getting on board the *Southampton*, We Weigh'd anchor immediately, & sail'd—The *Winchelsea* Frigate put Herself in stays, & took Her station astern. Soon after, a signal was thrown out from the *Southampton* for a general Chace. This was understood by all the Fleet belonging to the *Southampton*, but of course could not be then understood by the *Winchelsea* as it was a private one. The signal was immediately answer'd by the

Sea Flower & The *Ferret* Brigs & also by the *Valiant* Cutter, all of them immediately made more sail. The intention in fact was to try the Brigs against the *Valiant* Lugger, which belong'd to Admiral McBride's Squadron, & was reckon'd a very fast sailing vessel. The *Sea Flower* had a good deal ahead at the time the signal was thrown out, & the *Ferret* was ahead of the *Valiant* Lugger. However She soon pass'd the *Ferret* & appeared afterwards crawling slyly after the *Sea Flower*. She had near'd the *Sea Flower* so much that She soon would have pass'd Her, when another signal from the *Southampton* called the Chasers back, The *Valiant* then appear'd a head of the *Sea Flower*, & the *Ferret*, much behind at the time the Signal was thrown out, was now seen making sail far a head of the Lugger & the *Sea Flower*. The Lugger however kept stealing on fast after the *Ferret*, came up with Her, sailed abreast of Her, & pass'd Her, after which She made Her & the *Sea Flower* a present of Her Fore Top Gallant sail, & joined the *Southampton* & *Winchelsea*.

She is a beautiful Lugger & is my great favorite. The wind favorable for Ld. Howe's Fleet when We came on board, soon after changed. It has lately in the night blown from the N.E. & in the day it as constantly has veer'd round to the S.W. We must therefore still look out for Ld. Howe and cruise for Him whenever the Wind is in his favor.

On our return in to Weymouth Road, it being very calm, Ld. Garlies came in his jolly Boat on board the *Southampton*, & had the honor of making his bow to their Majesties & Royal Family on the Quarter Deck of the *Southampton*. He had been out two days from Spithead & had rough weather on his passage. Last night off St. Albans Head He fell in with a Dutch Fleet from Lisbon, with a strong Convoy, & spoke to one of them, a 64 gn. Ship. In coming past the Isle of Wight He saw a Large Frigate on Shore on the Shingles near the Needles. Not knowing what She was, He neared the Ship in distress as much as He could, but finding that Her Men had quitted

Her, & that there was no possibility of assisting Her, He stood on again for Weymouth. This Frigate is Portuguese. Probably they have had an English Pilot on board, but near the Needles unless the People on board are active & ready a Ship may get into a Scrape, even with an English Pilot on board—

Abt. two o'Clock this Morn'g. The *Dolphin* Cutter, (one of McBrides Squadron) came into Weymouth Road. She brought orders for the *Valiant* Lugger & the *Lion* Cutter belonging also to His Squadron to sail for Torbay & wait for Him there. We hear that McBride's Squadron was left by the *Dolphin* Lugger three Leagues from the Caskets, & that part of their object is supposed to be to escort the transports with two Regts. on board from Guernsey, The *Hind* Frigate being to (*sic*) weak to undertake it, as three Frigates have been coming in & out lately near Guernsey— This evening Their Majesties &c went to the Play & saw She Stoops to Conquer & Animal Magnetism in both of which Mr. Quick perform'd.

Sept. 4th.

His M: seem'd this morning strongly inclined to take a good long ride, but on His walking out before breakfast the very favorable report of the Wind for Lord Howe's Fleet inclined Him to sail in hopes of seeing Him. The signals for sailing, & for the Boats, were order'd to be made at the Flag Staff, & to speak to Capt'n. Forbes. On Capt'n. Forbes' arrival He confirm'd the great probability of the Fleet Having sailed & a report sent by the Mayor (Mr. Stewart) that the Master of a Vessel, just come in, had seen them at the back of the Isle of Wight in the night, increased our expectations of success. He reported also a Convoy having pass'd thro' the Needles yesterday eveng. for the Westd. At 10 o'Clock Their M^s went on board the *Southampton*, & were as usual cheer'd from the *Southampton* The *Winchelsea* & attendant Vessels. After We got on board the Wind seem'd veering a little towards its favorite quarter & from N.E. was now come to the S.E. We kept

tacking in the Bay for some hours, making little Way. Abt an hour after We were under Sail the *Sea Flower* made a signal for seeing Ships in the S.E. Quarter— All now anxiously expected to fall in with the long expected Fleet, but soon from the Mast head these Ships were known to be a Fleet of abt. twenty four Merchant Men under Convoy of a Frigate.* After searching as well as our Wind would allow Us some hours for Lord Howe's fleet, We put the Frigates about & with a steady moderate breeze on the Quarter soon came to our old anchoring ground in Weymouth road, not a little regretting our constant disappointments.

The Acct^s I received this eveng. on my return convinced Me, that the probability was that Lord Howe's Fleet had gone by, as there seem'd to have been such desire of getting out from St. Helens lately. Late this eveng. Captⁿ Sir James Saumarez of the *Crescent*, & Captⁿ Grindall of the *Thalia* arrived in Portland Road from Admiral McBride's Squadron. They came on Shore to acquaint His M: that they had this day seen Lord Howes fleet abt ten Leagues S.W. of the Bill of Portland. They saw them abt twelve o'Clock & the last they saw of them was abt. two o'Clock. Thus are we now decidedly releived from the doubts we have had this day respecting the sailing of this grand Fleet, & I am sorry We can now have no chance of seeing its proud course down the Channel. I am however releived when I recollect that My Friend has been more fortunate than I have been & that — has seen it in all its glory—

Admiral McBride, by Sir James Saumarez's acc^t, has had rough weather for His Cruise— The Squadron has been off the Casket, Guernsey &c. He detached the *Crescent* & The *Thalia* for Weymouth, while the Admiral & the rest of His Squadron are gone to Plymouth from whence We may expect them soon here. The *Crescent* & *Thalia* saw nothing on their Cruize suspicious, They

* Known since to be the *Regulus* 44 with the Quebec convoy—RFG.

spoke only to the *Eurydice* 28 gns. The *Valiant* Lugger & the Small one which came in lately, & also one of the Cutters sailed from Weymouth Road this Morn'g—

In this day's sail the *Winchelsea* seem'd to draw upon the *Southampton*, & on the whole to have had the advantage in sailing. She is a handsome frigate in the Water, is larger than the *Southampton*. She is painted red & black, as She was when I last saw Her at Cowes, but She has now a Billet Head instead of Her figure Head which does not improve Her. The *Southampton* is also a quick sailing Frigate.

Sept. 5th.

A low'ring & squally morning made our plans for this day very uncertain. His M. bathed at eight o'Clock at the Floating Bath, moor'd off the Peir.

He saw on His return Sir James Saumarez of the *Crescent* & Capt^a Grindall of the *Thalia*. From them He learnt that Lord Howe's Fleet had pass'd very early yesterday Morning past Portland. Their having gone so far to the Southd. of it, is very much in favor of their getting into Torbay time enough to avoid this blustering Weather. In a hard shower of rain His M. order'd His Horse to be got ready after breakfast, as readily, as if a bright Sunshine had tempted Him.

Between Showers we sett out to ride to Longbury Hut near Winterbourne, to review the Corps of Yeomanry for the county of Dorset, who were to have a Feild day there this morning. On coming to Longbury Hut we found Three Troops of Yeomen at exercise under the Command of L^d Milton & a very respectable & good appearance they made— None out of all the Corps of Yeomanry have come forward in so handsome a manner as these of the County of Dorset. They offer'd their Services without receiving a farthing, & came into the Feild equipped with Horse Saddle & Uniform &c at their own expence. They carry'd this Pride of Service so far, that they still grumble at having had their swords gratis—, the only articles which they have not paid for Themselves. They went thro' their business

with great steadiness & good humour. This respectable & Substantial Corps is composed of the Most substantial Farmers in the County, & the property in each troop is very considerable— They are clothed in a Green Cloth Short Coat, green waiscoat—with black Velvet Collar & Cuffs, a Gilt Button, & for Epaulettes they have solid brass buttons formed in the shape of a short epaulette, black Stocks, a Saddle & pair of Holsters cover'd with black Bearskin, a Sabre, & a curb bit & bridoon for their Horses—

Among the Corps I found as assistant two of the Old Tenth. One I had remember'd as a Sergt, another as a Rough Rider in that Regt. The day was unfavorable, & often interrupted by misling Showers of Rain. After the Business of the Feild was over, I conversed with Mr. Bridge of Winford Eagle one of the Serjeants of this Corps. From Him I learnt, that He likes the Cross between the Leicester & the Dorsets, & find that He has adopted the Leicestershire phrase, that they “will thrive on the less meat,” & quicker, & will become heavier Sheep in Weight, tho' less in size. On questioning Him further He acknowledged that the New Cross of Leicester & Dorset had less fat in the inside, & that the Wool was considerably disimproved. He told Me He should try, a cross between the Spanish & Dorset with the Leicester Ram, which He thought would answer Well & improve the Wool which has been much deficient in the other Cross. At My desire He will try this Season the Ryelands cross'd with the Hereford, having from a Neighbour an opportunity of getting a few Ryelands.

This being quite a Sheep county I have desired Mr. Bridge to procure Me a good Sheep dog for a Friend of Mine— My instructions are that it is handy & good temper'd & not too large. He has promised to procure Me one.

The *Ferret* Brig left us this day & is gone to Portsmouth. Remain in Portland Road the *Thalia* & *Crescent*, & in Weymouth Road the *Southampton* & *Winchelsea* Frigate & *Sea Flower* Brig. This Evening Cards in the King's Apartments—

Sept. 6th.

This Morning before Breakfast His M. walked on the Esplanade— Met Sir James Saumarez of the *Crescent* & Captⁿ Grindall of the *Thalia*. The former received an Express from the Prince of Bouillon (Capt. D'Auvergne) early this Morning from Guernsey. Among other particulars it mention'd that Two first Rate French Ships not yet taken notice of in our Lists, had not reached their Ports after the Action of the 1st of June. The one The *Republicain* of 110 gs. formerly *La Bretagne*. The other the *Cote d'Or*, formerly *Les Stats de Bourgogne*. The P. of Bouillon has heard from many Quarters positive Accts. that both these ships sank after the Action, before they could reach their port, & that a great part of their Crews perished. The Dispatches also add, that The French Northern Army begin to feel great want of Provisions, & that Coasters under Convoy of their Frigates are endeavouring to relieve them, keeping close upon their Coasts.

After Breakfast The King, Pss. Sophia, Prince Ernest, & the usual suite rode to Mr. Lionel Damer's at Came. The Queen & the Rest of the Pss.'s follow'd in Carriages. Mr. Damer's House is situated in a dip among Hills, & has nothing very interesting in point of situation or appearance. We return'd by the same way; much of it over the Downs. In the opening between the Hills looked to the Sea where fortunately placed for our prospect, were the *Thalia* & *Crescent* Frigates under sail, moving from Portland Road to Weymouth Road. Soon after Their Majesties' return these frigates came up, & each gave a Royal Salute, & took their Station in Line with the *Southampton* & *Winchelsea* Frigates.

By a Torbay Fisherman, come in to Weymouth Road, We hear that Lord Howe's Fleet after a night of severe weather on Thursday, were safe in Torbay, with one Frigate only damaged.

Just before dinner I received a Letter from L^d Md giving

Me intimation of His intended Visit to Weymouth to attend His Majesty's Council on Monday or Tuesday. Immediately secured a good sitting Room & a good Bed-chamber at the Hotel for L.^d M.^d * & took care that He should have all the advantages which I value so much, by chusing Him Sea Prospects to both His Rooms. In the Evening went to the Play where the Rivals & Barnaby Rittle were acted, & in each Quick had a Part—

Sept. 7th.

His M. bathed this Morn'g. after which He walked on the Esplanade & was joined by the D. of Gloucester & Sir James Saumarez— The former arrived last night with his Daughter—† Abt. a Q^r before Eleven Their Majesties went to Church; The service throughout but very indifferently perform'd. After Church The King joined by the Pss's. P. E. & the D. of G. walked to see the Temporary Dragoon Barrack at Weymouth, across the Bridge.

During dinner this day the Prince of Wales arrived. No walking this evening. The Weather is variable & stormy, Appears very equinoctial & the Wind has whistled frequently this day.

This Morning the *Crescent* made a signal on which a Cutter, one of McBrides Squadron, set sail for Torbay.

This evening Their Majesties went to the Assembly Rooms. On Leaving Them I heard that L.^d M. was arrived— I eloped from our Apartment & found L.^d M. had occupied the Rooms that I had procured for Him at the Hotel & that He was pleased with my choice. I received from Him a Packet of Letters to which no cross Incidents were attached.

Sept. 8th.

This Morning before breakfast I saw the Chancellor & L.^d M.^d walking on the Esplanade. I joined them &

* Three years later, Greville was married to the Earl's widow.

† Sophia-Matilda, at this time she was 21 years old. She never married and died in 1844.

walked some time when a signal was made to Me that His M: had walked out. I left Them & overtook His M: just as He was getting into one of the Streets for shelter agst. a Blustering Wind at E.N.E. which raked the Esplanade— His first Question was if L^d M. was arrived. I told Him He was & that I had just left Him & the Chancellor on the Esplanade. On which He return'd & joined Them on the Walk. Both had a very gracious reception, & I heard His M. tell L^d M. that it was very handsome of Him in having attended the summons to council from the Isle of Wight. The necessary arrangements being made, & the Council fixed for tomorrow, His M. notwithstanding the signal from the *Southampton* that the Weather was favorable for sailing, preferr'd His ride, & order'd His Horses after Breakfast. This day being the Anniversary of Their Majesties' Marriage every due attention to it, was arranged. A Ball & Supper at Gloucester Lodge was determined upon & Cards were issued to the few who could be selected & muster'd on the occasion. All our Party, their Maj: The Princes & Pss's appeared in honor of the day in distinguishing dresses & the Red & Green Hare hunters' Uniform & Habits were selected for the gala colour of the Morn'g.

After Breakfast His M. attended by the P. of W. P.E. & the usual suite rode by Upway to Farmer Ham's— On the road met Ld. Salisbury posting to the Council. His M. rode over Farmer Ham's Farm & made many enquiries which were answer'd with much intelligence by this spirited young Farmer. His Maj: made me note some of the Memorandum which He wish'd to recollect from Hence, announcing Me to all around as "His Farming Secretary." His M. was pleased with the folding Sheep upon sown wheat, a practise not unusual in this County & which seems a very good one. After the Wheat is sown they fold over the Land as soon as they well can. The Farmer says that an acre so folded exceeds the advantage of 14 L^d of manure per acre in the usual way. It suits best in light Lands & does not answer so well in strong, & the land should be

folded in dry weather. The fold we saw was abt. three Hurdles by twenty & contain'd Nr. 400 Sheep. Farmer Ham upon my enquiring Abt. the practice of taking in Hampshire flocks to pasture during the Summer months on the Downs assures Me, that instead of paying any thing the Farmers let them graze the Downs for the advantage only of the Fold. This intelligence must be further enquired into. I find that they keep them for nothing but "The Tails o' Them."

In my ride this day I had a very interesting & a very particular conversation with the P. of W. Riding apart from the rest of the Compy, & talking abt. various things, The P. inform'd Me that He was going to be married & mentioned that the Pss. of Brunswick was the object of His Choice—He then informed Me that He had open'd this intention to His M. on his last visit here & that He had the Happiness to find that His choice & intention had most entirely met with His M^s approbation. Afterwards graciously detailing his general intention of arrangement He concluded by telling Me that the People abt Him Should be of His own chusing, & that He had always wished & intended to offer a situation which He should have endeavor'd to have made acceptable & agreeable to My Brother Charles whenever He had had an opportunity, & that nothing had prevented it in His new arrangements but his (Charles) having found in the King a more powerful Benefactor, & under whose protection He was hoping to find Him safe.* I endeavour'd to convey My thanks for the kindness, & my sincere good Wishes for the Prince's happiness in His new career, with every real sentiment of attachment & gratitude.

Returning to Weymouth, immediately as His M. & the Prince alighted, The *Southampton* the *Winchelsea*, the *Crescent*, the *Thalia* & the *Sea Flower* Brig fired a Royal Salute which was follow'd by a salute from the Look out Battery & by a *feu de Joie* by the Dragoons & by the Bucks

* Charles Greville having recently been appointed to the post of Vice Chamberlain to the King.

Militia in Camp. The *Crescent* & the *Thalia* decked their Shrouds with Colours of various nations. The *Southampton* hoisted the Royal Standard at the Main Top Mast head, The Admiralty Flag at the Fore Mast Head & the Union flag at the Mizen Top Mast head. I do not like the appearance of a Frigate decked out with Colours & Streamers. It destroys the elegance of form which a Ship of War has in my eyes. It makes the upper parts of the Ship lumpy & heavy, & is at best but a Flag fair. The *Winchelsea* with Her Ensign only display'd at the stern was by far the most striking object to Me in the whole Line.

This day from the heights above Upway I saw Admiral McBride's Squadron far in the Offing working Channel agst a strong easterly Wind.

There was a Ball & Supper this Eveng. at Gloucester Lodge.

Sept. 9th.

The Ball having finished at two o'Clock His M: did not walk out this Morn'g. before eight o'Clock. At this time Admiral McBride's Squadron were seen approaching Weymouth Road. At half after eight o'Clock they cast Anchor. The Fleet Here now consisted of the *Minotaur* of 74 gs. with Seven Frigates, The *Sea Flower* Brig & attendant Cutters and Brigs.

After Breakfast His Majesty rode—going along the Lullworth beach, crossed over upon the Downs & extended the ride over Them to Mr Ham's Farm, & return'd thro' Upway to Weymouth.

At three o'Clock His Majesty held a Council at which the Chancellor, Lord Mansfield, Lord Chesterfield, Ld. Salisbury & Ld. Walsingham assisted.

This evening The *Minotaur* & the *Nymph* Frigates sailed for Portsmouth. In their last cruise they have experienced much blowing Weather. They report that Lord Howe's Fleet sailed from Torbay on Sunday, & they are now supposed off Ushant.

The Equinoctial Weather still continues. This day

abt. three o'Clock a very heavy squall came from the Eastward & a very hard rain fell. A Water spout form'd near the *Southampton* Frigate & travell'd on past the Look out towards Portland Bay. Luckily it did not meet any small boat under sail which certainly must have suffer'd by it—

In the Evening Cards in the King's Apartments to which The Chancellor, L^d Mansfield & L^d Salisbury were invited.

Sept. 10th.

It blew very fresh this Morn'g. & His Majesty did not walk before breakfast. The *Southampton* Frigate made the signal that it was not a good sailing day. His M. called on the Chancellor at His House & staid with Him a considerable time. The Chancellor afterwards came to Gloucester Lodge.

Abt eleven o'Clock His M: & Pss's S: rode out & an addition to the Party The D. of G: * & His Daughter joined it. Rode by Upway thence over the Downs by Mr. Williams', then cross'd the Dorchester Road to Monkton, & came home thro' Upway. On our arrival at Gloucester Lodge the K. open'd a dispatch which contained the Accts. of the Death of one of the Queens Sisters—† Her M. dined in Her own apartment this day with Pss. S: The Play order'd for to night by their Majesties, was acted in their absence. The Q. play'd at Cards in Her own apartment, The King & the Pss as usual in his Apartment.

I do not say I shall take pattern how I am to be affected by events, unpleasing to My Relations or Friends, from this Society. Some might have behaved otherwise without prompting.

The unfavorable Weather prevented the sailing intentions of this Morn'g. The Squadron was to have been divided, & chasing, forming in Line, attack &c &c was to have been practiced, in the Bay with our Frigates. The

* Gloucester.

† Princess Christiana of Mecklenburgh Strelitz.

Hebe has this Morning struck Her foretop Mast to repair the damage it had received in this blowing Weather.

This Mornng. the Chancellor & Ld. Mansfield left us. Two Presses for Straw & two Broad Rakes called Hell rakes, were this day sent from Upway for His Majesty's Farms at Richmond & Windsor G. Park.

Sept. 11th.

His M. bathed this Mornng. & walked afterwards a considerable time on the Esplanade where He was join'd by Captⁿ Sir Jas. Saumarez of the *Crescent* & Captⁿ Grindall of the *Thalia*. Afterwards L^d Salisbury joined the Party. The Signal was order'd from the Flag Staff at the Battery to announce to the *Southampton* that His M. did not sail today. After Breakfast The K: The P. of W; P. E.; Pss. Sophia & Pss. Sophia of Glo'.* & the D. of Glo'.* with the usual suite rode out, making all together a cavalcade of 26 Persons. If this is not a Quiet comfortable ride, I know not scarce what is!

The little choice of roads abt. Weymouth will acct. for the sameness of our rides. This day We went by Upway thert to Dorchester. The object of this ride was to look at the Dragoon Barracks, & to shew them to Gen^l Gwyn who arrived here last night on a visit of a few days. These Barracks will be very good ones. The situation promises to make them healthy. The command of Water is a favorable circumstance for a Horse Barrack & the River Froome which comes out of Somersetshire, & passing thro' Frampton reaches Dorchester, affords them a constant supply.

On our Return I fell back to converse with the Shepherd who was tending his Flock. I found by Him that the Hampshire Sheep were all gone home from the Downs. He confirms the report which I had collected already, that the Farmers who have downs to dispose of, let them out for pasturing Sheep solely for "The Tails o' em" Eighteen Pence & sometimes 20 Pence p^r Week for Each Hundred is paid to the Shepherd who tends them & who puts them

* Gloucester.

The return of Messrs. the & the names gets for the
Pasture the grass from the Downs -
The Starblers are provided by the Proprietors of the Downs.
After dinner this M. the C. & D. C. & the J. & W. & the
on the Explanade. The evening was closing. After which
they returned to the Starblers Lodge & Sea & D. Cards -
How beautifully bright & serene did the Moon
rise this night over St. Albans Head. In this calm
night how charming was the reflection on the Sea.
But I could view it only from my Lord's Table. Oh
what a night was it for a mooning walk. If my
friend could have partaken of it I should certainly not
have preferred a solitary one.

Sept. 12th

This morning at half past 6 o'clock the
Cassini Frigate Capt. Sir John Lumsden fired on gun
he hoisted a blue flag peevish with white at her main
topmast head. This flag was a signal for
all Officers & others to go on board & all it continued
flying all the morning. His Majesty walked before
breakfast a considerable time on the Explanade & pro-
-fessing a ride to sailing, he ordered the signal to
be made to the Southampton Frigate, that his M. did
not go on board this day.

I waited myself off first. Gurgas presence I ask
his M. permission I absent myself from my attend-
-ance on him this morning & made a party with my
friend D. C. to go to the Pebbly Beach, a plan which
we intended to execute the first favorable opportunity.
We rode to the Ferry where we left our horses &
intending to stay some hours on the Beach I sent
my horses ~~back~~ & Weymouth & rode them back
to the Ferry at two o'clock - Nothing could be more
favorable for our excursion than the day &
the time of tide - The Easterly wind deprived

in the Fold, which is the return of profit which the Farmer gets for the Pasture He gives from His Downs. The Hurdles are provided by the Proprietor of the Downs.

After dinner His M. The P. of W., P.E. & the Pss's walked on the Esplanade, till evening was closing. After which they return'd to Gloucester Lodge to Tea & to Cards.

How beautifully bright & serene did the Moon rise this night over St. Albans Head. In this Calm night how charming was the reflection on the sea But I could view it only from My Card Table. Oh what a night was it for a musing walk. If My Friend could have partaken of it I should certainly not have preferr'd a Solitary one.

Sept. 12th.

This Morning at half past six o'Clock the *Crescent* Frigate, Capt'n Sir Jas. Saumarez, fired a gun & hoisted a blue Flag peirc'd with White at Her main Top gallant Mast head— This Flag was a signal for all officers & others to go on board & it continued flying all the Morn'g. His Majesty walk'd before breakfast a considerable time on the Esplanade & preferring a ride to sailing, He order'd the Signal to be made to the *Southampton* Frigate, that His M: did not go on board this day—

I avail'd Myself of Genl. Gwyn's presence to ask His M.s permission to absent Myself from My attendance on Him this Morn'g. & made a Party with My Friend P.* to go to the Pebbly Beach, a plan which We intended to execute the first favorable opportunity. We rode to the Ferry where We left our Horses, & intending to stay some hours on the Beach I sent My Horses to Weymouth & order'd them back to the Ferry at two o'Clock. Nothing could be more favorable for our excursion than the Day & the time of Tide. The Easterly Wind deprived us of the deep Waves especially as the Water was low, but nothing could be more favorable for Pebbling. As soon as We got on the Beach & turn'd our Eyes to the Wide Ocean,

* Price.

We both enjoy'd the scenery & felt our thoughts free, which they had not been for some time— All *gêne*, all hurry, all interruption were now at rest, & We felt ourselves, Ourselves again. Without quarrelling We seperated from each other on the Beach, & I travelled towards Chissel Town, My Friend towards Abbotsbury. Here sauntering & amused in Watching a retiring tide, I ruminated without interruption, except what now & then a sudden Wave occasion'd, for some hours; I thought of scenes that were past, & blended them fondly with the present. In the course of the Morn'g. I collected some clear specimens of the Pebbles which are met with Here, & My F^d returned with Me to the Ferry not less loaded & incumber'd with His selection than I was. Our Horses met us punctually at the appointed Hour, & releived us very opportunely from our Fatigues for We had tired ourselves not a little.

Abt. four o'Clock this Eveng. Capt'n. Sir James Saumarez in the *Crescent*, with the *Hebe*, The *Thalia* & The *Druid* Frigate, prepared to sail & with two Cutters of the Squadron soon got under Weigh. They stood towards The Eastern Shore of the Bay & formed a line with equal distances. When thus completely form'd they fired a Royal Salute, with an effect so beautiful that it was impossible to exceed it. Their Fire was quick and regular & the Report rumbled loud & hollow along the Shores— After this the Squadron tacked & They were soon out of Sight of Weymouth Road with a steady Breeze at E.N.E.

This Little Squadron is bound to Plymouth for Beer, but this active enterprising officer Sir Jas. Saumarez told Me He should stretch over to Cherbourg & look in there, & that He was in hopes this easterly Wind would bring out something on the French coasts as it very commonly did, & that He should before His return pick up something for Us. He says We may expect Him & His Little Flotilla abt Monday or Tuesday next—

This Evening a Foreigner appear'd on the Esplanade with the Windsor Frock Uniform. On being Question'd it appear'd He had landed this day from the Guernsey

Packet— He produced a Passport from L^d Moira *— and one from Col.- Small † —& was going to Lord Moira— He had a letter also for Mr. Dundas & gave an acct. so satisfactory of Himself, that no more suspicions were entertained. This visit has however pointed out pretty strongly the necessity of watching this inlet from abroad a little more attentively. At present there is too little caution & enquiry. The Secretary of State ought to consider this with some attention in times like this, & His orders should be more strict in future. This Man's Name was Fleureon—

Cards as usual in the Kings apartments this Eveng— Today the P. of Wales Accompanied by L^d Clermont left Weymouth on a visit to My B^r in Law Churchill, at Henbury where He means to take a days shooting & then return here—

Sept. 13th.

The King bathed before Breakfast & on His return order'd the *Southampton's* Signal to be made for not sailing. Abt. ten o'Clock His M. & the same numerous Party which rode with us on the 11th rode out— Our ride this Day was of four hours & half. We went first towards the Portland Sands but the Sea being too much in, prevented our riding along them. We took the upper Road & came to Wick a very mean dirty Village with a better looking Church belonging to it than it deserves— This Church serves also as a Sea mark—on going out to sea from Portland Road, by keeping this Church open to the point of the Island, you avoid the Shambles. His Majesty kept as much clear of the Camp on Wick Heath as He could in going by, as He did not wish to turn out the Line, but We pass'd close to the Booths erected by the Publicans of Wick & Weymouth in the rear— Here a very improper & an ill-timed joke took place the offspring of the great

* Francis, second Earl of Moira, was in charge of part of the expedition for the relief of the French Royalists on the coast of France. Later created Marquess of Hastings.

† Lieutenant-Governor of Guernsey.

Feild Marshall Glo^{str}. Therefore I need not add that it was strongly tinchered with His natural good sense & good Humour, which however I confess if He had presumed to have practised upon Me, as He did upon L^d Wal^m * my bad Humour would have been exchanged for it in return— None felt more ashamed, or more hurt at this undignified exhibition than Myself who kept as much aloof as I possibly could— This great Feild Marshall never did amuse Me & I think Him less entertaining than ever, & more ill bread.

Our ride extended from Wick by Chorton & thence to Upway thro' which We came home to Weymouth. In the Eveng. His M. & Pss's walked on the Esplanade stopping & talking to all the Children which He met, which interruption did not suit the coldness of the Eveng. The Evenings begin now to be too cool to make our Walks pleasant, & to stand still on the open Beach so long together is by no means an Act of My choice.

This day the Foreigner whom We saw in the Windsor Uniform, was spoke to again & He seems to be a Person who has come here with sufficient *repports* from Guernsey, however to make sure of Him, as He was going to London with a Letter to Mr. Dundas, we persuaded Him to prefer the Mail Coach as his most expeditious Conveyance, & by which He w^d escape much interruption on the Road. We did not add that He would have with Him a Messenger to observe Him on the road & to see that He paid His Visit to the Secretary of State immediately on His arrival in Town. This Foreigner says that in the Vendée they are still very numerous & strong, but that there are not arms for above 70,000 of them. Cards this Eveng. In the King's Apartment as usual.

Sept. 14th.

This Morning His Majesty took a very short Walk before breakfast on the Esplanade. At a qr. before Eleven o'Clock Went to Church where Their Ms. heard a

* Walsingham.

Sermon on the Omnipresence of God by Mr. De Guiffardière— * The Sermon was a very good one; but I was, I own, a little disappointed with the Voice & delivery of My Good Friend & Acquaintance from the Pulpit. After Church Their Majesties & Pss's Walked for some time on the Esplanade. After Dinner His M. & Pss's resumed Their Walk on the Esplanade while the Queen drove on the Sand in Her Carriage.

While His Majesty was walking on the Esplanade The *Southampton* Frigate Fired a gun & hoisted a signal at Her Maintop Mast head. Soon after a large Ship seem'd standing into Weymouth Road & the *Southampton* fired another gun. The large Ship was under a press of sail, & had a blue ensign flying at Her Mizen Peak. Abt half past six the Ship ranged past the *Winchelsea* Frigate, & coming close to the *Southampton*, dropp'd anchor. At this time I saw in the offing two Large Ships. Very soon after the Strange Ship anchor'd, the *Southampton* Frigate fired another Gun, & by this time Her first Lieu^t came on shore & acquainted His Majesty that the Ship just come in was the *Trusty* of 50 gs. Captⁿ Dury, who was chased in by four Ships one of which appear'd to be a Large one, the rest Frigates. He further reported from Cap^t Dury that He had been chased most part of the Day by these Ships which were now in the offing, & which were still standing in for Weymouth Road. The L^t of the *Southampton* inform'd His Majesty, that on seeing the *Trusty*, the *Southampton* had made The Admiralty Signal, which was answer'd, & that immediately after the *Trusty* had answer'd Her Signal, She had hoisted a Signal, that an Enemy was in Chase. That Captⁿ Forbes on this, was preparing to give the best reception to the Enemy which His Small Squadron could command, & that His intention was to place the *Trusty* as His Center & that She with the *Southampton*, The *Winchelsea*, & the *Sea Flower* would form

* The Rev. C. de Guiffardière, the Mr. Turbulent of Mme. D'Arblay. He was a French Protestant minister, and French reader to the Queen and Princesses.

a Crescent & wait for the coming up of the Strange Ships, after having changed his present position a little by moving forwards a short distance towards them. By the time this Message from Captⁿ Forbes of the *Southampton* was deliver'd The Signals from the *Southampton* appear'd; She fired a gun to Windward & run up four lights in a square in the Shrouds. The *Winchelsea*, & *Sea Flower* Brig answer'd with corresponding Lights. Directly the general alarm was given The Signal Gun from the Battery on the Look out was fired, at the Battery on the Esplanade two lights appeared on the flag Staff, the Town Guard of the Bucks Militia took part at the Esplanade Battery, The Camp Picquet marched out of Wick Camp & form'd at the Look out Battery where also the Volunteer Artillery Company of Weymouth repaired. The Grenadier & Light Infantry Comp^y of the Bucks Militia took part on the High ground above Portland Sands near the Old Castle & the Volunteer Artillery men, dragged with much alacrity one of their Feild Peices to defend the enterance from the Portland Sands. Centries from the Camp spread on the Heights above the Sands & a Party of Dragoons (the Royals) hastened to the Ferry & secured the Ferry boat from Portland Island on this side. On the Lullworth side near the Bridge the Dragoon out Patrole was doubled & the various communications were completed. In the Camp the Line turned out & stood to their Arms, where in default of Artillery Horses, the Coach Horses of the Marquis of Buckingham & Lord Chesterfield were dispatched with all speed to the Camp, & every horse which could be got at for that Service was searched after. Luckily this Morning a Small Vessel arrived from Portsmouth with twenty Barrels of Powder & with ammunition for the Troops in Camp who had not before more than Sixty Rounds pr. Man in store—

The Night had now closed in, & signal guns continued to be fired from the *Southampton* & *Trusty*. In the offing We saw Lights & the Ships appear'd still standing in. Nothing could be more cool & collected than His M.

during this time— He dismissed the L^t of the *Southampton* desiring Him to tell Captⁿ Forbes that He approved of all He was ab^t & that He was satisfied He would do His duty. On the L^t telling the King that it was Captⁿ. Forbes intention to keep His situation, for fear in the night, if He stood out, that the Strange Ships might slip in past Him, & that He should be ready to receive them, if they stood in; & if they stood out in the Morn^g. He should be ready to go after them. His M., upon this, answer'd, that He was perfectly satisfied with that intention, adding that the first object of the Ships should be, the protection of the Trade—

On the Ships coming nearer in, the *Trusty* fired a Gun shotted, & the *Winchelsea* & *Southampton* Frigates had their Ships clear'd, their Men at their Quarters, & their guns shotted. A Private Signal was now made, which was answer'd by the Strange Ships, & soon after, it was discover'd that This Fleet who had occasion'd this real Alert was Sir James Saumarez's Squadron returning from their Cruise. Sir James came on Shore immediately & saw His M: who held every alarm so cheap that He had gone as usual on Sunday night to the Rooms.

Sir James Saumarez reported to His M: his late cruise & the reason of his speedier return than He had at first intended when He left Weymouth road on Friday Eveng. He had stood over to Cherbourg off which He lay Saturday Night abt. six miles from it. His object was to keep out of sight that night, in hopes at early morning of intercepting any thing which might be coming from Dunkirk Havre &c. Not meeting with anything, He came off Cherbourg & lay just without Shot of the Guns of the Forts— He found there a force superior to Himself viz. two large Ships razes * which are line of Battle Ships cut down & mounted with very heavy guns 24 Pdrs such as our *Albion* & *Non-such*— Three large Frigates, a Brig, & two Corvettes a Cutter & Lugger with abt. 90 sail of Vessels. The French

* Razee—an old Naval term for a ship of war cut down (or razed) to a smaller size, as a seventy-four reduced to a frigate.

on his approach hoisted a Signal for an Enemy & a stir was visible amongst Them. He lay off there some time & made signal to each Frigate under His command to take their own particular memorandum of what was in Cherbourg which He intended afterwards to compare with His own. At the time I saw Him He had only received the *Hebe's* report which tallied exactly with & confirm'd His own Observations in the *Crescent*. The French never attempted to come out to meet this Squadron, therefore Sir Jas. left Cherbourg abt. eight o'Clock this Morn'g. & stood for Weymouth road, preferring that course for several reasons, instead of fulfilling a principal part of His original intention when He sailed from hence on Friday Eveng. which was, to get beer &c on board The *Crescent*, & The *Thalia* at Plymouth.

On their return from Cherbourg to Weymouth They followed the *Trusty*, & the curious part of the History is, that so much mistake should have been made, but this We shall have explained probably very soon. The *Trusty* when She came in under a press of Sail anchor'd near the *Southampton* Frigate. The report which He then confirm'd having already made it by Signal, was that those four Ships then in the offing & bearing up for Weymouth road were enemies Ships, that the *Trusty* had been chased by Them great part of the Day & that She had exhausted every signal to the Strange Squadron & none of Them had been answer'd. On the Contrary Sir Jas. Saumarez, if I did not mistake Him, said that They never saw His Signals. How far this might be the case We shall have a full opportunity of knowing tomorrow as His M. intends to sail, & has given orders for the *Trusty* to wait here.

Sir Jas. Saumarez this Eveng., as soon as He left His M., dispatched an express over land to Portsmouth to Admiral McBride, & to the Senior Officer in that Port with intelligence of the Frigates &c He has seen this Morn'g at Cherbourg.

The appearance of the British Squadron of Frigates will probably occasion such suspicion of an Enemy's force

being on the Coast, that the intelligence sent from hence by express may be sufficiently in time to be useful, & at least this force at Cherbourg if they do not chuse to Venture out will be confined to their Secure Harbour.

His M. after receiving Sir Jas. Saumarez's acc^t sent Me to dismiss the Town G^d from the Esplanade Battery, & to have intelligence convey'd to the different detachments with^t the Camp, & also to the Line in Camp, that they might all turn in again to Camp & to their Barracks.

While His M. was in the rooms I left with His permission L^d Wals^m in attendance, & taking My New Dear Cloak ab^t Me, I shelter'd myself in a cold unpleasant night in it on the Beach, where I walked up & down watching the various signals, & waiting the events of the operations then going forward. I met in the Croud My Friend P(rice) who had just then turn'd out to take a look, & who was not a little annoy'd with the cold wind which blew freshly from the Est. I brought into use the full excellencies of this same good Cloak (& which I had not from the beginning overlooked) & wrapping Him up in it at the same time with Myself, under its genial & comfortable protection we walked some time on the Beach, as Warm as We could wish. I value this Cloak very much; It is comfortable to Me in the extreme at times, & its value is in My Eyes more than doubled, as it can on occasion make My Friend as comfortable as Myself under the Same Shelter, at the same time without seperating Us.

I have been amused with this real Alert & think Sir Jas. Saumarez has done very well for one day, by having alarm'd Cherbourg & Weymouth within the twelve hours. I have fancied also all the exertions of The Telegraph & have supposed the Convention resuming their debut, after having received & return'd various messages from & to Cherbourg in the course of this Morn'g.

Sept. 15th.

This Morning His M. bathed— Afterwards He walked on the Esplanade & order'd a signal to be made to the

Southampton Frigate that He should sail, & that the Boats were wanted. Weymouth Road appear'd this Morning fully protected & the Friends & Foes of last Night were now intermixed and riding at Their Anchors— While His M. was walking Cap^t Minchin of the *Hebe*, Cap^t Ellison of the *Druid*, & Cap^t Grindal of the *Thalia* joined & introduced Cap^t Dury of the *Trusty* to His M.: The Cap^t of the *Trusty* it seems was chased for ab^t four Hours & said that finding His Signals not answer'd by the Ships in the Offing, that when He found they had neared Him as much as He durst venture to let Them, He made sail & then thought it his duty to come into Weymouth to strengthen the *Southampton* & *Winchelsea*, knowing His Majesty was there, & believing these four Ships by their not answering His Signals to be an Enemy. I find it is difficult to trace the real history of this adventure, each Cap^t differing in the Acc^t. The Cap^t of the *Trusty* thinks Himself perfectly in order by taking the line He did, under the circumstances He saw. I heard the Cap^t of the *Hebe* acknowledge He had seen Cap^t Dury's signals at Sea, & on Cap^t Dury's asking Him why He had not answer'd Them, He replied, that as He was not Commodore it was not His business, on which Cap^t Dury told Him, "I suppose you had great pleasure in driving in a 74 (The force which the Frigates took the *Trusty* to be of when they saw Her) into the Road—"

At any rate there seems to have been some great mistake somewhere, & lucky indeed was it, that the mistakes did not end tragically. On the Squadron of Frigates coming in, the *Hebe* led. The night Signal was made by the *Trusty* it was answer'd in part only & then stopped; on which the *Trusty* fired a gun shotted, the Ball of which fell close by the Gangway of the *Hebe* & splashed the Sea up against Her, On which, they continued the Signal by shewing false fires. Had the *Hebe* not done this directly after the shot had been fired, or had She on receiving this Shot luffed up & bore away, The *Southampton* who had primed Her guns & pointed Them would have fired Her

whole broadside into the *Hebe*. The *Winchelsea* had pointed Her guns at this time at the *Crescent* & The *Trusty* & *Sea Flower* as well as the others of Captⁿ Forbes's Squadron were all ready cleared for Action. It is really a most happy circumstance that the mischeif which was on the very point of happening did not happen; for if the fire from the Frigates had begun many lifes must have been lost before the mistake could have been discover'd & Sir Jas. Saumarez Squadron must have suffer'd very materially, coming up as they did with Their heads on, & exposed to the Broad sides of the *Trusty* the *Southampton* & *Winchelsea*. Thus ended this singular alert, which, while it lasted, was a very lively one.

After Breakfast this Morng. Their Ms. The Pss's The Duke of Gloucester & His D^y took boats at the Peir & went on board the *Southampton*. On coming on board, the *Trusty* & Frigates Mann'd their yards & cheer'd as the King reached the *Southampton*. Some little time before this in the offing were seen two sail standing in for Weymouth Road. On their nearer approach they were discover'd to be a Frigate & a Brig. The Frigate & Brig hauled their Wind, laid too, & the Frigate fired one Gun. This was answer'd by Signal & by one gun by the *Crescent*. After this the Frigate & Brig again stood in towards Weymouth & joined our Squadron which now consisted of the *Trusty*, The *Hebe*, The *Crescent*, The *Thalia*, The *Druid*, The *Southampton*, & the *Winchelsea*. To this also was now reckon'd the *Nymph* Frigate & a Brig name unknown to Me. (The *Viper*.) Our Squadron now stood out of the Bay the wind at this time E.N.E. As the *Le Nymphe* & the Brig came up they fired a Salute— The beginning of our standing out was very pretty, The Ships gaining ground on different Tacks. The Wind soon after sailing freshen'd a little & The Signal was made for the Fleet to form the Line a head. At this time five frigates were sailing towards the Lullworth Coast to leeward of the *Southampton*, The *Hebe*, The *Winchelsea* & *Trusty* were to Windward. A heavy but partial Shower discomposed us

a little on board the *Southampton*, Some of the Hindmost Ships escaped this smart Shower entirely; after the Rain, the Wind lulled & we scarce made head way for some time; at length a breeze came from the S.S.West. The *Southampton* Frigate then made the Signal to form the Order of sailing to Leeward. The Line was soon form'd, the headmost ships laying too, the Sternmost making sail to gain their several stations. When the Line was well form'd The *Southampton* hoisted the Royal Standard at Her Main top Mast Head on which The Line fired a Royal Salute.

The Squadron after the Salute continued sailing in line for some time, when having open'd Lullworth Cove They tacked. The *Southampton* now led in, followed by the rest of the Fleet. At this time the *Southampton* was considerably ahead. She gave the *Winchelsea's* Signal to come within Hail. She set more sail & proved the goodness of Her sailing as She fetch'd up two Miles in the run to Her anchorage in Weymouth Road. The *Winchelsea* is to my Eyes the neatest Frigate. She is taper, & lays well in the Water. She is fan Tail'd which really gives Her a great deal of air. Her head is a bad billet head, if a neat billet head with a handsome finish at the end of it was to be substituted She would be very much improved. Next to the *Winchelsea* the *Nymph* pleases Me most, both in Her appearance & in Her sailing. She is perhaps at the same time the most Warlike looking Frigate of the whole. Abt! Six o'Clock the Squadron return'd to their anchoring ground in Weymouth Road. On Their M^s leaving the *Southampton*, The Royal Standard was lower'd on that Frigate & was hoisted at the bow of the King's Barge. When this was seen The whole Squadron again Saluted. Their M^s dined on Board this day. They dined under an Awning on the Quarter Deck. We dined in the Cabin, where, for a wonder, I enjoy'd my feast very well; so good a train'd Sailor am I now.

During our course I thought often of a Fellow Voyager who I conceived ploughing the Main this Mornng. With

that Person I wished to divide every pleasant breeze that we had to make the Voyage more pleasant.

When We came on Shore we had to hurry most exceedingly to get ready for the Play which Their M^s had order'd for this Eveng. Quick play'd in the Lying Valet, The Quaker & The Author, this night.

Sept. 16th.

Our Squadron this morning was reduced in numbers the *Trusty*, The *Hebe*, the *Nymphe*, & the *Druid* having sailed with the early mornng. Tide for Portsmouth. We now know the object of the *Nymphes* looking in yesterday mornng. & the intention of Her Signal. She was sent from Portsmouth to call out the *Hebe* & the *Druid* to reconnoitre off Cherbourg. The late cruise of Sir Jas Saumarez & the full intelligence He brought from thence made this Visit unnecessary. The *Crescent* therefore made a signal, which join'd the *Nymphe* & the *Viper* Brig to our Squadron yesterday. This Morning they sailed to Portsmouth that they may be ready to proceed on any cruise which the intelligence Sir James Saumarez has brought from Cherbourg may render necessary.

His M: walked before breakfast on the Esplanade & abt. ten o'Clock rode to Wick Heath to review the Buckinghamshire Militia. The Queen & Pss's went in the Post Coaches to the ground.

On The King's approach to the ground a Royal Salute was fired from the two Six pounders of the Battalion, when unfortunately one of the Men was severely wounded owing to the Gun not having been spurred home, a dangerous omission. The Poor Man fell & was carried to a Tent. When the Surgeon came He thought an amputation of His Arm necessary. The Soldier said He hoped if they could that they would save his arm that He might then still be able to serve the King. His Arm was amputated above the Elbow & we hear He is likely to do well. In battle, every risk, & every consequence must be taken

without murmur, but it is, I think a little hard, to lose a limb, or life, in such parades of War.

This Reg^t of Militia is a very good one. They are a fine body of Men—young & stout— They went thro' their business well, & with great attention & did credit to Themselves. After the review was over Their Majesties & The R. Family adjourn'd to the Marquis of Buckingham's Tent, where after a cold collation all the Officers of the Reg^t were presented to the King & Queen & kiss'd hands. We, His M's. suite, occupied an adjoining Tent, where We had our cold collation with the officers of the Reg^t—

On Their Majesty's return from Wick Heath the Royal Salute from the Battalion Guns begun but was interrupted by another accident & another Soldier attached to the guns, has had, in consequence, His Arm amputated below the Elbow!! I cannot help thinking that these guns must be honey combed within, which if so the delivery of such guns should be severely censured at the Ordinance Office.

I have heard this day that Fleureon the French Man whom We sent up in the Mail on the 13th, with a Messenger for His Companion, is now in Custody in London.

We had this evening a long & an unpleasant Walk on the Esplanade. Afterwards Cards in the Kings Apartments. On my return this day from the Review I received a very comfortable Letter from a Friend of mine, who I hope & trust is really better & reposing.

Sept. 17th.

His M: bathed this Morn'g. & Walked afterwards before breakfast on the Esplanade where the Marquis del Campo, The Spanish Ambassador, presented Himself— After breakfast Their M's The Pss's P.E, the Duke of Gloc: & D^r & the usual suite went to see the Yeomanry Cavalry of the County of Dorset. They were reviewed under Maiden Castle on the side next to Dorchester. The Six troops were out, & they really made a very respectable

appearance & went thro' their business with great steadiness & precision. They were very attentive & very willing, two primary essentials towards making any Corps forward in discipline. Nothing was hurried, & in my opinion they have this day shewn themselves much to their Credit & are already a very useful body of cavalry. Another pleasing circumstance of this review has been that it went off without the least accident. The ground was cover'd with Carriages Horses & Foot People from the neighbouring districts. Some of the Somerset Yeomanry were present & several from the Axminster Volunteers. The former clothed in Grey Coats lined with buff, & red collars & cuffs. Waiscoat Buff. The Axminster Volunteers are clothed in Blue Jackets, (Light Horse) with yellow facings & Collars & Cuffs. Waiscoat white, Round Hat with Pink Band, & Black Bearskin & red feather—

This Morning two Ladies & one of the Officers belonging to the squadron now laying here were out in a small boat sailing near the Peir. The boat struck on an old Pile, started a plank & sunk. The Ladies & all were saved, from every thing but a compleat ducking— The boat was weighed up soon after. At the Time She lay under Water nothing appear'd but the Top of Her Mainsail.

This Eveng. Their Maj^{sts} went to The Play— The Brothers & The Village Lawyer, in each of which Quick acted.

Sept. 18th.

This Morning abt three o'Clock there was an extraordinary Loud Clap of Thunder which waked almost every body in Weymouth & its neighbourhood, & frighten'd many. Loud as it was, I heard it not by its own report, but by that of others. I beleive My nap must have been a sound one, as few were uninterrupted by it. After this Storm it blew a violent Gale from the South West, & a great Sea was tumbling in our Bay. Abt eight o'Clock the *Sea Flower* Brig fired two guns & hoisted a signal of distress. She had dragged Her anchor, & had got very

near the Shore when Her anchors held. A Boat full of Seamen put off from the *Southampton* Frigate to Her assistance, seven with difficulty thro' a very rough Sea reached Her. By this reinforcement Her top Masts were struck & every means made use of to render Her birth Safe. The Wind blew so high this Morn'g. that His M. was not inclined to walk or ride— I was busy in My little Cabin copying Signals, when His M. came & paid Me a Visit. Finding that His Intention was not to go out, My Friend Price & I made a Party to look at the Waves agst the Pebbly Beach, but unfortunately it was too late in the day to accomplish it. However We walked to the Ferry House & saw the spray drifting along the top of the beach & every now & then a Column of Water thrown up far above it. Against the Cliffs of Portland Island towards the Light House the Waves dashed above half way up them, & remained supported in the Air by the strength of the Wind which had dashed Them so violently agst the Rocks. On our return a violent Shower of rain overtook us. We were ill prepared for it, however We contrived for ab^t half an hour to shelter ourselves tolerably well. My Friend by getting under the Lee of a Hay stack & I by thrusting Myself in a thick Hedge.

On our return the arrival of the Baron Dewitz from the Duke of Mecklenburg was announced, and was introduced to Their Majesties. Dress'd out in a full suit, Bag, sword & broad yellow & Blue Ribbon with all the ceremony & Pomp of a German Little Court He contrasted strongly with *Les Conseillers Intimes* of our Weymouth Court. This day at dinner Her M. told me She had been reading a small compendium of the Peerage, by which She found that I kept a secret very well— I expected nothing less than that the secret of my age was about to be discovered to a very numerous society— “Pray Sir” said the Queen “is not your name R.F.G.” “Certainly Madam it is—” “I find then that you married a Miss G:” “Then Madam I fear I must doubt the accuracy of your edition & Resign the credit I have acquired, of keeping a secret—” On

which the King said, "The edition has not done you ill, for it has not taken away from you, but given to you—" Being still at my own disposal, I was amused with the errors of the Press.

Abt four o'Clock this Eveng. I saw the most complete & the brightest color'd Rainbow I have ever beheld. The Arch sprang from the Beach near the Turnpike & finished close to the *Southampton* Frigate in the Sea. It was complete & Brilliant in its Prismatic Colours throughout.

L^d Paulett's Harriers arrived at Upway from Somersetshire this day, a pretty sure forerunner of fresh amusements for us very soon.

This Eveng. Play again— Love in a Village & The Drummer.

Sept. 19th.

This Morning We saw the *Sea Flower* Brig in Her station again after Her yesterday's adventures— She was rather in a scrape owing principally to Her being overmasted & to Her anchors being too small— The *Southampton's* Cutter with a mate & seven Men did Her essential Service. They intended to have carried out a cable & anchor, but it would have endanger'd their Cutter & Men in such a sea as ran when they put off from the *Southampton*. The worst I beleive that would have happen'd to the *Sea Flower* would have been the loss of Her Masts & then She would have become a large Boat. They had already thought of this expedient & had given two nicks to Their Main Mast when the Cutter put off. The Gale began abt. twelve o'Clock last night & in the Morning, was a heavy one. The *Crescent* Frigate dragged Her anchors a little also.

This Mornng. His M. bathed, & enquiring of the State of the Weather for sailing, was answer'd at our Battery Flag Staff that the *Southampton* signal had been already made for it being a favorable day for sailing, on which His M. order'd the signal to be made for the Boats.

I found from some of the Officers on Shore that there

were different opinions ab^t the weather, & having already witness'd an equinox here, I saw something so very like it now & lately, that I was at least resolved to profit by my experience, tho' others might be inclined to make experiments. I therefore made my excuses for my non attendance This day, & sett out as soon as the Boats putt off, for my favorite lounge on the Pebbly Beach. I went alone & had no interruption to my free thoughts, a comfort which it is not always practicable to obtain in this society. The Wind, by having got more to the South^d had a good deal calm'd the Waves from what they were yesterday with a Strong Southwester, but still they were awful & Magnificent. I was obliged to walk with caution & to keep at a proper distance, for some Waves broke loose far beyond the rest, & cover'd Me every now & then with thick spray at a great distance from the spot were they broke & scatter'd. These are really waves of the first class of beauty & magnificence. Today they were deep, hollow, & finely coloured, & their edges delightfully fringed with fleecy foam. I do like this Beach, I can gaze from it on the Waves for Hours & amuse myself exceedingly well with digging among the Pebbles. This Beach is the most interesting Accompaniment I know in the range of Weymouth. As I ascended the Beach to return Home I saw the Frigates at Anchor. As Their M.s intended dining on board, I could not well guess how the cruise had been so short. On my return to Weymouth I found that this Party of Pleasure had not exactly answer'd its intentions. The coming on board & the leaving the ships was by no means an easy ceremony & Her M. & the Pss's were a good deal alarmed both in rowing to & from the Frigate & also on coming on board & getting into the Boat again. Some Invalids also were counted, as I am told, among the Pss's & their attendants. The Weather before Their Majesty's left the *Southampton*, became again tempestuous & squally, so much so, that Her M. had almost inclined to stay on board & not to venture in the Boat on Shore. All however ended as well with this Party as a considerable

share of fright & sickness would allow. Several of Them, quoted in their distress My Wisdom in staying on Shore, & His M. when I saw Him at dinner was quite eager to tell Me how wisely I had acted by declining to go on board today. With such encouragement I think I shall be inclined to do so again under similar circumstances.

The badness of this Evening prevented Walking, but cards were as usuall resumed for the evening's Amusement in the King's Apartment.

Sept. 20th.

During the Night it blew very hard & the *Sea Flower* tho' not in distress, drifted again a little. His M., the weather continuing Very blustering & squally, did not go out this day— As soon as I found myself released, I went with the German officer who is in Prince Ernest's suite to Portland Sands, intending to shew Him the Beauties of the Pebbly Beach during a very strong S. Wester. When We came to The Ferry, we found the Water very rough, & the Wind continued violent. The Ferry man told us that We should be very wet in going over, That however He would take us across if We chose, but that as the Tide was still coming in fast, that He was not sure if He could bring us back again if We went as far as the other side of the Beach. Of old I remember that at times this Ferry was by no means a pleasant one, therefore tho' We were both exceedingly anxious to see the Waves during this hard gale of Wind, yet We thought it but prudent to let the Ferryman decide for Us, in a case where our not crossing was agst His interest. He told us that there was then a great stress upon the Rope by which the Boat is drawn across, but that He thought it would hold well, as it was a new one. I asked Him what would be the consequence if the Rope broke. He started at the Question & answer'd Me briskly, that if it broke He would not give a halfpenny for all our Lives. I was satisfied, & We were resolved to be prudent & to relinquish the Ferry. I made however another attempt by wishing to have a small boat to row

across, but this He declined saying He would not go were he in the small boat for £20. Finding all prudent schemes agst us, we abandon'd our Project totally, & were obliged to be satisfied with the sight of a Towering Wave every now & then rising above the Beach, & with the constant clouds of spray which drifted over Chissel Town from the billows which dashed almost to the tops of the Cliffs towards The Light House. The sea in this Great Western Bay was very much agitated & the great Waves rolled heavily over its whiten'd Surface. In the midst of them I spied a Lugger scudding under an easy foresail, & making fast way towards the Bill of Portland; at times nothing but the tops of Her Mast were seen. I told my Companion that I thought it was my Friend, The Little *Valiant*, returning from Guernsey to Weymouth. After dinner We saw the *Valiant* Lugger coming into Weymouth, after a prosperous but very rough Passage.

On our return to Weymouth from the Ferry we examined some curious beginnings of Stone, which the Portland Sands form in great abundance. It is a very tenacious black clay which rotted by the tide assumes the form of Pebbles & Larger stones, & small stones & shells adhering to the outer surface forms a solid covering, and it becomes like what is called Plum Pudding stone, & by degrees the Clay becomes as hard as stone itself. Besides the Pebbles great quantities of this clay are form'd together & I make no doubt become Rocks of the same substance as what I see a great deal of on the shores of these Sands.

This Eveng. Cards in the Kings apartment as usual.

Sept. 21.

His M: bathed this Morning & walked afterwards on the Esplanade. I saw here a very remarkable Goose. Remarkable for its fancies, & not for its appearance, for it was one of our common geese. This Goose has taken a great fancy for its owner, a Farmer who lives near Wyke at a small distance from Weymouth. It is now abt. five

years old & was one of a large Brood. This Goose follows its Owner (Mr. Bartlett) as well as a Dog, tho' its nature does not permit it to be so good or so quick a Traveller. However if the pace is too quick, rather than be left behind, it will run & fly after Him. It follows Him from His Farm into Weymouth frequently. I saw it at His heels waiting in the middle of a crowd of people who were talking together on the Esplanade. When the Farmer walked away the goose followed Him, as regularly as could be. When He stopped the goose stopped, waited patiently, & play'd with the skirts of His Coat. If a stranger offer'd to strike Him the Goose would fly at Him & defend His Master. He has been known, when He has miss'd His Master in Weymouth, to fly over the Houses & return to His Farm. I never saw such an instance of affection before. It may be fancy but it is a fancy so deeply rooted that it can never cease but with life.

At the usual time this Morning Their M^s &c went to Church.

Mr. ——— Rector of Taunton had bespoke the Pulpit He is reckon'd a very good Preacher & He thinks so Himself. The Epistle I never heard better read, & I form'd a strong prepossession in his favor & thought Him a very sensible Man. I am very apt to judge of a persons sense, by His reading. In the Pulpit I thought Him sensible but sometimes pedantic & generally too methodistical in his manner. He spoke chiefly off hand. He had a written sermon but He seldom looked at it.

After Church His M. took the air on the Esplanade—Walk He did not, tho' He was out for two hours which He employ'd in speaking to those who form'd His Levee on the Esplanade.

In the Eveng. Their M: & R. Family went to the Rooms at the Hotel. There has been a strong report this day that a Cutter has sunk yesterday evening in going thro' Portland Race with fourteen men on board. It is believed to be a Frenchman by Her sails being so much browner than ours & by the difference of Her rigging. As it is

only report, I hope it may, be as many on our Sea shore are, unfounded.

The race of Portland is certainly a very dangerous one. The current is rapid & the bottom very uneven over which it runs, & changes suddenly from five to fifteen fathom backwards & forwards frequently in a very short space. When the Wind is fresh, Frigates who may be obliged to go thro' it batten down their Hatches, but commonly the race may be avoided, as it is deep near Shore within it & Vessels at the Bill, "may make very free with the Land." A good thing to remember if chance & stress of Weather may drive a Wanderer that way.

Sept. 22d.

A cloudy & dark morning with rain seem'd to threaten a disappointment to His M^s Hunt with L^d Pouletts' Hounds, However ab^t 10 o'Clock it Cleared up & the Hounds threw off under Maiden Castle between Upway & Dorchester. We had some very pretty running every now & then over the Downs. A brace & half of Hares were killed this day, one of which was killed on Dorchester Race ground. We had at least half a Troop of The Dorsetshire Yeoman Cavalry out with us with their Sabres & Pistols, They having had a feild day this Morning near where We turn'd out.

L^d P: hounds are a small neat Pack. They are hunted very quickly & the Huntsman uses a common Postboy's Horn tipped with Silver to rally His hounds. I should like a small bugle Horn much better. I rode Grey Spinner today—she was eager for the Chase & trembled most exceedingly with flurry. Little Goldfinch I suspected would be saucy. He is always gay; with the Hounds He becomes eager, & tears Himself to Peices. I therefore sent Him home, & shall willingly indulge Him in all his road airs & Sauciness—

In going thro' Upway today I got a little model of a Wheat Reed Press which I had bespoke some time ago for a Friend. I also received for that Friend a Sheep dog

which Mr. Bridge of Winford Eagle procured me by my desire. He is reported to be handy & steady with sheep & to understand his business. Mr. Bridge reckons it a handsome one. It is not quite so handsome as I thought it would be by His Acc^t of it, but its color is not withstanding the common colour of the Shepherd Dogs of this county, & I suppose He is handsomer than I think Him at first sight. If He is a useful & a steady one it is such as I have been trying for.

During the Hunt I saw one of the Dorsetshire Yeomen a farmer who has settled near Upway from Somersetshire (Mr. Ham) The King has often had conversation with Him ab^t His Sheep. I put in my word this day ab^t Them. I find He is more partial to the Somersetshire sheep than to the Dorsets. The K. has commissioned Him to get two Prime Rams from Somersetshire I believe to cross with His Wiltshires. They will shorten the legs of the Wiltshires & give them breadth—as He says. If so, they may improve the breed, as they are generally too long in the Legs & too thin a sheep to please Me. Farmer Ham tells Me the best Sheep of His County(Somerset) are bred by Mr. Perkins at Henley near Croherne (*sic*). He is a tenant of L^d Pouletts. A Mr. Hallett also has prime Somerset Sheep. He tells Me that Mr. Perkins's Sheep always go off the first at Wey Hill Fair & at the greatest prices & this they have constantly done for several years.

This Evening Their M^s &c went to the Play. The Farm House, The Virgin Unmasked, & Sprigs of Laurel, were the Selections for this Evening.

I am glad to hear the report of the Cutters being lost in Portland Race on Saturday eveng. is contradicted. The fact seems to be that on that Evening the *Valiant* Lugger coming round Portland Bill "making free with the Land" saw, & had very nearly taken, a Smuggler Cutter just then in the Act of unloading a Cargo. She would have taken Her, had Her Misen Mast not split, & if Her "Bumpkin" had not broke. The Smuggling Cutter on

seeing Her left off unloading, Hoisted sail & got to Windward directly, from the Accident the Lugger had met with.

Some people who had seen this going on said that they had seen the Cutter "sink," which meant no more than that they had seen Her sink Her cargo—

The *Valiant* Lugger has since got information of the spot where She had begun to sink & has taken this morning abt. two hundred Kegs &c. This day being the Coronation Day the Frigates fired at one o'Clock a salute, & the troops in Camp three vollies—

Sept. 23d.

A Visit to Milton Abby (Ld. Dorchester's) was fixed for this day. The Morning was very rainy & unpromising. His M. bathed between six & seven o'Clock & at half after Seven, Their Majesties, Ps^s &c. sett out for Milton Abbey. Our procession consisted of Four Post Coaches & four. We went thro' Dorchester, & Near Puddletown (*sic*) Post Horses were waiting in the Road for the Carriages. To this place the King's Horses had been worked. At Melbourne St Andrews We turn'd off & came to Milton Abby. The view of it on the approach is a favorable one & its situation is from hence well seen. It is upon a gentle knowle encircled with surrounding Hills except towards the S^d where is a Valley in which is a large peice of Water. It is now nearly dry, as they are at work in repairing the head. This abby is a very antient one, It was called Middleton Melton Abbas Or Milton Abby. It was founded by King Athelstan in the yr. 933 in honor of St. Mary, St. Michael, St. Sampson & St. Brawnwalader— It was liberally endow'd with estates in Dorsetshire & at the dissolution was valued at £720 per. annm. according to Speed. It was burnt by Lightning A.D. 1310 the beginning of the reign of Ed^d 2d. The Abby church was rebuilt & completed soon after, vis in the yr. 1310. Most of the Abby Church remains, The West End excepted, which has many years been totally taken away. The rest of the Church is in good order &

has lately been repaired & beautified under the inspection of Mr. Wyatt. In the Church there are two monuments. The oldest is that of a Sir Jacob Banckes a Swede who married a rich Heiress of the Family of the Littletons of Dunster Castle in the County of Somerset, & who got the estate of Milton Abby as part of His inheritance. The circumstance of His marrying this Heiress was curious. He was a Captⁿ in the Swedish Service & lodged in Henriette Street near which, during a great fire He was very active, & with great risk & cleverness He saved this Lady, who was at the point of perishing by the Flames. She rewarded this essential Act of zeal, by giving to Captⁿ Jacob Banckes Her hand & a very considerable estate. The other Monument is a new one erected by the Present L.^d Dorchester in memory of His Wife. He means to be buried in it Himself & His place is kept always ready for His reception. On this Monument are two large figures. The one of His Wife in a recumbent Posture— Himself, is half raised up, & leaning over, He looks at His Wife. The figures & monument are of white marble & are the work of Carlini.

The Abby Church forms the principal part of the building of Milton Abby. Of this old Church the refectory remained adjoining to it. This is now the great Hall. It has a gothic Screen at the bottom of this Room & its roof is antient & of curious construction. To this Old Hall the present House probably owes its situation, were it not for this, a better might have been found for it. The House is of Stone & flint, alternate Seams of each throught. In the House there is a considerable collection of Pictures & I believe some of them are reckon'd fine. In the great drawing Room upstairs is an excellent Picture of a Friar by Titian. Two or three whole length Vandykes, two good Small Salvator Rosas, &c but below stairs there is a little gem as Mr. Christie would term it—A Steenwix, the colouring of which is mellow to a degree, the perspective good & the composition of the whole well imagined, & superiorly executed.

L^d. Dorchester within a few years has very much alter'd & improved His residence by removing a Village which adjoined to Milton Abby to a small distance from it, where very curiously, & very snugly situated, is a new Village of 36 Houses built by L^d Dorchester when He removed the Old Village. Each House has a garden behind it & there are several Wells Sunk near these Houses in the Street. There is in this Little Hamlet a new Church & an Alms House for Old Women who have each an apartment to themselves. These Women wear the Pointed High Crown hat, nothing like which have I seen since I saw those of the Witches in Mcbeth. This Place wants wood which is the complaint ags^t almost all Dorsetshire. However L^d. Dorchester has already made large plantations on the surrounding heights which begin to be ornamental. The soil is chalky & the principal part of the Planting are Scotch Fir. I should have been more inclined to have encouraged the Beach Tree & Larch. In the Lawns round the House I saw numerous flocks of Sheep, many with their red smear'd Jackets on, preparatory to their march to Wey Hill fair.

Their Majesty's & Princesses went in 4 Little Phaetons round the Plantations attended by L^d Dorchester.

Return'd to dinner—& Cards in the evening in the King's apartments—

Sept. 24th.

This Morning between two & three o'Clock there was a violent Storm of Thunder & Lightning, accompanied with a great deal of Rain. This Storm did no mischief. It continued raining till after Breakfast, notwithstanding which His M : set out in a hard rain to hunt. Luckily it clear'd up, but the day continued with Showers every now & then.

We rode thro' Upway & from thence went to Maiden Castle where We found a Hare very near it & run it under the skirts of this Old Work. We killed a brace of Hares this Morning. The scent lay well & the hounds run hard, great part of the time over fine Racing Turf. Our Hunt

extended beyond Dorchester a good way. In the course of our hunt I observed some good flocks of Sheep— The first belonged to a Mr. Hardy of Martins Town— Ab! Dorchester the Sheep in general seem particularly good— They should be sound flocks from hence, as certainly nothing can exceed their healthy range on the surrounding Downs. At this season of the year they abound with Mushrooms, so thickly spread that I wonder some very considerable profit is not made of them.

This evening there is a little change in the Wind some points to the North^d of the West. If it holds, it may bring us the *Minotaur* tomorrow. I hope it will, as our time now runs short & we have not as yet been on board of this fine 74. In Weymouth road our Little Fleet remains at anchor, & consists as usual of the *Southampton* & *Winchelsea*, The *Crescent* & the *Thalia*, The *Seaflower* Brig & a Cutter. This evening The K. & Pss's walked late on the Esplanade. Cards in the Kings apartments afterwards.

Sept. 25th.

His Majesty bathed this Morning & walked afterwards on the Esplanade. The *Southampton* made a signal that the Weather was favorable for sailing, but the Weather having been so Wild lately, or perhaps the recollections of a late cruise, prevented any attention being paid to this intimation. The Wind continued still favorable except for us to expect the *Minotaur* but she has not appeared this day. After breakfast His Majesty hunted. The Hounds threw off at Maiden Castle. This day we had a great deal of riding, without killing a hare, owing to the great numbers which We found & constantly hunting fresh ones. This was a little hard upon our Horses who have hunted three days out of four & who are tomorrow to begin their journey. Our hunting was nearly over the same ground as yesterday namely ab! Maiden Camp, & the Skirts of Martins Town. I again saw this day some very good Sheep belonging to Mr. Hardy of Martin's Town. He seems to have one of the best Flocks hereabouts. The Downs & pastures of these

districts are excellent & healthy. They are many of the Pastures inclosed & very spacious abt Martins Town. They are reckon'd inferior to few in the county, & equal to all, except those about Dorchester which are Water Meadows. This Evening I saw a curious effect of a Rainbow. It was very black & Wild towards the Sea. Part of a Rainbow, sett off by a dark black Sky, rose from the Sea as a Column of various colours broad at the Bottom & diminishing upwards. None of the orbiculas form of the arch remained, it was just a shaft of one end of it which was like a variegated Spout of the brightest colours rising from the sea.

This Evening Their M^s &c went to the Play—for the benefit of all the Performers— The Dramatist & the Prize—

Sept. 26th.

This Mornng. at break of day some large Ships were seen in the offing— They stood in for Weymouth road & by half past eight o'Clock they came to an Anchor. They were the *Minotaur*, the *Hebe*, the *Nymphe*, The *Druid* & the *Viper* Brig. Admiral McBride & the rest of the officers immediately came on Shore. The King bathed this Mornng. at the Floating Bath—

This Morning was exceedingly favorable for sailing & so fine a Squadron as that under McBride's Command consisting of a 74 gn. ship, & five Frigates, The *Viper* Brigs Cutters &c. with the *Southampton* the *Winchelsea* Frigates & the *Sea Flower* Brig &c. was certainly very tempting. A Breakfast however at L^d. Chesterfield's in Camp prevailed & Their Majesties & R. Family went there. Amidst my regrets at this disappointment it was my consolation, that this preference was not assisted in the least by Me. I have been long anxious that His M. should go on board the *Minotaur*. This Ship is one of the finest in the Navy, & the Squadron at the head of which She sails is a most useful one in the Channel, which it scowrs & protects most assiduously. Indeed to it We have owed great

protection, & now all the danger is over it must be fairly own'd, that when His M: first came here, his safety was much risked by the inattention of the Admiralty. He has been here some days under the protection only of one 32 gn. Frigate & two Brigs & We have known that at Cherbourg there have been constantly a very powerful Squadron of Frigates. McBrides' coming here, was more by His own attention & zeal than from orders from the Admiralty.

The Kings determination to go to the Camp was highly flattering in its consequences to the Bucks Regt. The Marquis of B took an opportunity (unexpected by His M.) of asking His M^s permission for the Bucks Militia to be called the King's Own Reg^t of Militia, & to change their facings to Blue. The K. consented, & the M^s gave the glad tidings to the Reg^t who gave three loud cheers on receiving them. This distinction will I foresee occasion & raise jealousies among others equally ambitious of distinction. But this is an affair *dont je ne me mêle pas*— The guns of the Battalion were this day drawn forwards for His M^s, inspection & searched in his presence. On trial they were evidently honey combed in various parts. Two new Battalion guns are to come on Monday from Portsmouth with Horses & drivers to remain attached here to Them; an omission which was not attempted to be rectified till a late alarm, when two setts of Coach Horses were lent & sent up to Camp for their Service.

After dinner His M: walked a considerable time on the Esplanade which was crouded. In the Evening Cards as usual in the Kings apartment notwithstanding the very early hour at which He takes His departure for Windsor in the Morng. This days post brought Me a Welcome letter before My Departure.

Sept. 27th.

All was bustle this Morning at Glocester Lodge & neighbouring Houses before four o'Clock, preparatory to Their Majesty's leaving Weymouth on their return to Windsor. A Quarter before Five the Carriages were at

the doors to take the luggage. The guard of Royal Bucks drew up on the Explanade before Gloucester Lodge with Their Music. A party of the Royal Dragoons took part on their Right in the Road. The 1st Lieut of the Southampton came on shore to give the signals from the Esplanade battery for a Salute from Admiral McBride's Squadron & the other Frigates in Weymouth Bay. At five o'Clock Their Majesty's sett out. Four Coaches & four form'd the line of March. The 1st Lt of the Southampton (McKenzie) fired a gun from the Esplanade Battery as a signal for the Ships to begin their salute. The dawn at this time appear'd but the Sun was voted to rise an hour sooner, as no salute, in strictness, could be fired before or after Sunset. Immediately as the Signal from shore was made The Ships open'd their Salute by a quick succession of fire along their Line. Nothing can have a more beautiful effect, than the firing from Ships in the dark. It was not yet so light, as not to render this Salute uncommonly fine. The flashes seen thro' the Clouds of Smoke, can be compared to nothing but to the Vivid & strong flashes of Lightning bursting thro' the blackest clouds, & illuminating the Ships, Sea, & sky, with a momentary glare of light. This salute was answer'd by the Battery on the Look out, which resembled at every discharge, a small Volcano throwing fire from the summit of the Hill. I parted with this fleet with some regret, & from the summit of Broadway Hill took my last farewell of it, & of the Sea & Portland Island.

Our course thro' the usual stages, was rapid— At about half past nine We reached Hamam Hill, near which, on the Right of the Road, General Gwyns new raised of Light Dragoons were found in four Squadrons, of two troops each. They are clothed in grey with red collars & Cuffs & in a Hussar light Waistcoat. The Men are young & in general tolerably good. They are too raw to particularize at present but they promise to be a good Regt in time. As to their Horses, I did, I must own, expect a better show upon the whole. In the black troop I saw some of the worst & heaviest horses I ever saw among Light Dragoons,

and there were a great sprinkling throughout the Corps of Horses of this description of other Colours. Coarse, ill made, heavy movers, & in short by no means answering my idea of a good L^t Dragoon Horse. There must be by & by a considerable Cost of Horses to make them more level & complete. The King walked along the front rank of the Line after which the Regt. filed off & pass'd by.

After seeing this reg^t Their Majesty's &c drove to the Bishop of Salisbury's palace where an abundant Cold Collation Tea &c was prepared. After this the journey was continued without incident or accident, till Their M : reached Basingstoke where The King's Carriage & one in which were the Pss's, made a run at each other, which ended in a little jostling, & at last in one of the Horses in the Pss's carriage & a Post Boy being thrown down & the pole broke by running it agst a House. The cause of this adventure was simply this. Their Ms. had taken the Stockbridge road follow'd by one of the Carriages. The two other carriages with us, kept on the usual road by Overton. Our first Carriage with some of the Pass's came in first to Basingstoke, & fresh Horses were put to it. Wishing to preserve their forward move, they attempted, being once first, to continue so, & therefore hurried on & had very nearly occasion'd a very unpleasant accident.

At Basingstoke I saw abt. a hundred & fifty of Col^l Graham's Recruits for His 2^d Battⁿ. of the 90th Regt.* They had all indifferent Reg^{tal} Cloathing but good enough for Recruits on the March & who had not yet had Arms put in their hands— They were drawn up to Receive His M : — The men in general were stout & of good size. I hear this 2d. Battln. is to come to duty at Windsor soon, where they will be form'd, as the 82d. was lately—

At Hartford Bridge I received a note Col^l Graham had give to one of the Kings Footmen for Me yesterday at Popham Lane. He was then returning to Southampton or rather to Netley Camp—

* The Perthshire Volunteers, raised by Colonel Graham; married to Mary Cathcart, Louisa Countess of Mansfield's sister.

At Hartford Bridge Their M^s &c dined— They proceeded afterwards to Bagshot, & from thence to Windsor— on entering which at ab^t half past six in the Eveng. We found the beginning of a great illumination on Their Majesty's return to Windsor—



By permission of Lady Gunning
LOUISA COUNTESS OF MANSFIELD
From the portrait by Romney

RESIGNATION.

Of My Appointment as Equerry to 'The King.

On my Marriage with Louisa Countess of Mansfield, (Countess in Her own Right) in the year 1797 I tender'd my resignation to His Majesty of My Equerryship, and His kind and gracious reception of My Intentions, added to the anxiety which I so naturally felt, & so fully, on making such communication.

His Majesty was pleased to say "that He was sorry to lose Me but that He hoped He should be enabled e'er long to replace Me in His Family as Groom of His Bedchamber," and He kindly added, "that He would never nominate to a future Vacancy in it, until He had first made the offer to Me — " —

Such marked condescension and kindness towards Me seemd to admit of no greater extent, but e'er I left Windsor, His Majesty increased my deep obligations by adding to them an instance of his very flattering confidence in Me—

When riding with Him in the Home Park, adjoining Windsor Castle, His Majesty resumed the subject of my resignation, & in a very kind manner He was pleased to say that "He should miss Me—" He then observed, that the selection of an Equerry was not of indifferent consideration to Him as its duties necessarily imposed much, & close attendance upon Himself, & whose habits & correctness must be confirmed, in order to recommend an Equerry to a situation of confidence so near his Person in his retired occupations.— Having imparted thus much, His Majesty said, You well know what these duties are, & what they ought to be—"Do you know of any, who you think would suit Me as your Successor?" After a short

pause, on a sudden & very important question, I replied, that I if entertained doubt, I ought to hesitate, & be silent, but I confessed that I thought I might presume to give a hint with confidence, encouraged as I was by long experience in forming a choice. His Majesty on this commanded Me to proceed, on which I said, that there was one Person for whose aimiable & correct character I could most safely answer, & that the Person I now alluded to was Major (now General) Cartwright, with whom I once served in His Majesty's 10th Regiment of Dragoons, & who had ever since been my invariable, & my most confidential Friend through life—On hearing his Name, His Majesty eagerly observed, that He thought I should name Him, & He kindly added, "I have had Him in my Eye."

The King without delay was pleased to appoint My Friend & who has continued to this time 1820 the safe & faithful Equerry to Our Dear King, & who has by his correct conduct, & aimiable Manners, secured the lasting respect of all Branches of The Royal Family, as well as that of His very many Friends & acquaintance.

DEATH OF OUR EXCELLENT & BELOVED
KING GEORGE THE THIRD.

This Melancholy Event was announced by The Duke of York in the following letter from Him to The Lord Viscount Sidmouth, One of His late Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Windsor Jan^{ry} 29th
1820.

MY LORD,

It becomes My painful duty to acquaint Your Lordship, that it has pleased ALMIGHTY GOD, to take unto Himself, My Beloved Father, and Our Most gracious and Excellent Sovereign.

He expired at 35 Minutes past Eight o'Clock P.M.

I am, My Lord
Ever Yours most Sincerely,
Signed,
FREDERICK.

The Right Hon.^{ble}
The Lord Visc^t Sidmouth.

This Letter from The Duke of York to Lord Sidmouth, inclosed the following certificate of all His Majesty's Physicians in Attendance at Windsor Castle on this Melancholy Occasion.

COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE.

Windsor Castle,
Jan^y 29th 1820

His Majesty expired without pain at 35 Minutes past Eight o'Clock this Evening.

Signed
Henry Halford
M: Bailey
Wm. Heberden
Robt. Willis
David Dundas.

General Cartwright Equerry to The King and at this time in Waiting at Windsor Castle, was immediately sent off Express by H.R.H. The Duke of York with a Letter to The Prince Regent at Carlton House announcing the death of His Royal Father

KING GEORGE THE THIRD

THE PRINCE REGENT at the time of General Cartwrights arrival at Carlton House was in Bed, & then indisposed, but The General was by instant command ushered into The Prince's Bedroom, where He deliver'd to H.R.H. the Letter with which He had been charged from Windsor Castle by The Duke of York.

Thus My Friend General Cartwright was the Bearer of that dispatch, which in the first instance, announced to The Prince Regent that by The Demise of His Royal Father His Royal Highness had become King of these Realms. —

General Cartwright was without delay dispatched from Carlton House, back to Windsor Castle, with a Letter from the King to His Brother the Duke of York.

The Lord Mayor of London immediately on receiving

the Official Account of the late King's death from L.^d Sidmouth as Secretary of State, extended the detail of the melancholy event throughout the Metropolis by the deep notes of the Great Bell of St. Paul, which He ordered to be tolled.

After these communications, steps were taken without loss of time to forward the necessary arrangements preparatory to the ensuing Funeral of our late much lamented King—

No Embalming took place on this occasion, but the Corpse was carefully wrapped up in a Cere Cloth a simpler and perhaps a more lasting preservative than the former process when well performed.

Among the accustomed ceremonies on such mournful occasions, that of sitting up with the Royal Corpse is an invariable one. For the usual allotted attendance called for on the King's demise, The Lords & Grooms of the late King's Bedchamber on the Windsor Establishment would have formed a part—had these still remained to this time—but wanting these on this occasion, an awkward change in this selection, was adopted through necessity— The late harsh reduction, of The Good Old King's Windsor Establishment had removed from His Household the Lords & Grooms of his Bedchamber, & which Lists were composed of His Majesty's own Old & Faithful Servants, and in consequence, attendance was now called on, & made up from the List of the Lords & Grooms of His Majesty, who previously had been attendant only on the Prince Regent. In conformity therefore to this Order Officers of this separate Household & who had never before been called for on Windsor Duty, were now summon'd to Windsor Castle, to sit up with The Royal Corpse, in alternate releifs day & night until the Funeral Ceremony should take place—

In this manner have I, as Groom of The Bedchamber to My beloved Sovereign King George the Third been driven from My Post of Honor at His Funeral, by those rough retrenchments which Parliament has not hesitated to

decree in the late good Old King's Household Establishment at Windsor, & whereby honorable Appointments were abolished & the long services of His Old & attached Servants, against whom, demerits could not be imputed were closed, contrary to Justice & fair Proceeding—and hence, our Venerable departed King had not the Faithful Servants of His own selected Establishment, to attend his remains to the Tomb—but their duties were then disgracefully transferr'd to those who hitherto had formed a part of the Prince Regents Household Establishment at Carlton House, and who had never until now done duty in the late King's Family, or near his Person—

THE KING'S INTERMENT.

The Interment of His late Majesty King George the Third took place at the Chapel Royal of St. George at Windsor on Wednesday Evening the 16th of February 1820.

The Remains of His late Majesty lay in State in the Royal Apartments in Windsor Castle from Tuesday Morning the 15th of February 1820 at nine o'Clock until the time of his Interment on Wednesday Evening February 16th 1820. The Public were admitted from ten o'Clock to four on Tuesday, & from ten o'Clock till three on Wednesday.

Those who assisted at the Solemnity, assembled in St. George's Hall at seven O'Clock, and the remains of His late Majesty, were removed from the Royal Apartments to St. George's Chapel in procession at nine o'Clock.

The Royal Body was received at the entrance into St. George's Chapel by the Dean & Canons, attended by the Choir— The Procession was flanked by the Grenadiers of the Guards—& it moved on to the Choir, where the Coffin was placed on a Platform. The Royal Crown of Hanover and the Imperial Crown of the United Kingdom were laid on it, with their Cushions.

The Duke of York, Chief Mourner sat at the head of the Corpse & the Princes of The Blood, near Him.

The Coffin Plate had this Inscription:

[DEPOSITUM]

Serenissimi Potentissimi & Excellentissimi Monarchi.
GEORGII TERTII—Dei Gratia Brittanarium Regis—
Fidei Defensoris Regis Hanoverœae Brunsvici & Lune-
burgi Ducis Obiit XXIX die Januarii Anno Domini
MDCCXX Aetate Sua LXXXII Regni sui LX.

After the Funeral Service and the Anthem—The Coffin lower'd gradually to The Royal Vault, and disappeared from Sight —

The following Extract from the detailed Account of the Procession at The Interment of His late Majesty George III in St. George's Chapel which appeared in the Supplement to The London Gazette of Saturday 19th of Feb^{ry} 1820 is worthy of remark.

In the Procession List, after the Enumeration of the Groom of the Stole to His late Majesty on the Windsor Establishment, The Earl of Winchilsea, The Vice Chamberlain to ditto Lord John Thynne & B. C. Stephenson Esqr. Master of The Household on the same establishment, the following Persons as having formed part of the Funeral Procession appear in The List of the Procession published in the London Gazette & dated from The Heralds College viz "Grooms of His late Majesty's Bedchamber

The Hon^{ble} Robert Fulk Greville

Vice Admiral The Hon^{ble} Sir Arthur Legge,
K.C.B.

Vice Ad^l Sir Harry Neale Bar^t K.C.B.

Maj^r G: Sir Henry Campbell K.C.B.

NB

I had no notice for Attendance at The Dear King's Funeral, nor the least hint from any Quarter that such Attendance from Me was wished or Intended—

I was not present at The Ceremonial of the late Kings Interment at Windsor on the 16th Feb^{ry} 1820—& no official Summons was traced for the Attendance of the late Grooms of The late King's Household.

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